

Hartford Courant

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Parents of slain teen call for peace

Father of James McGrath urges public to let criminal justice system take charge

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

The family of James “Jimmy” McGrath, the Fairfield Prep junior killed at a house party in May, spoke for the first time since his death during a press conference on Friday.

McGrath’s father called for those mourning his son not to take matters into their own hands or let

their emotions get the best of them. “Let the criminal justice system take over from here,” Kevin McGrath said, urging his son’s friends not to act out in anger in the wake of McGrath’s death.

McGrath, a lacrosse player at Fairfield Prep, was stabbed at a Shelton house party on May 14. “Any violence as a result of this incident would be a dishonor to Jimmy’s name,” McGrath said at a

press conference Friday morning, standing beside his wife Maggie McGrath and their daughter Rose. “He would not want anyone else to be harmed as a result of what happened to him.”

Kevin McGrath said he was prompted to speak out after “a couple of isolated incidents,” including one at Walnut Beach in Milford, that he said may have stemmed from his son’s friends

acting out toward students from St. Joseph’s High School.

Raul “Lito” Valle, the 16-year-old football player charged with stabbing McGrath to death on the lawn outside the party, is a student at St. Joseph’s. Valle was released from custody last week on a \$2 million bond.

“Raul Valle and the other

Turn to McGrath, Page 2



RIGHT: James McGrath played on both the football and lacrosse teams at Fairfield Prep. He was fatally stabbed at a house party in May. **COURTESY**



The American Mural Project, a massive mural that celebrates workers, was started 22 years ago by Ellen Griesedieck in an old mill in Winsted, where she is pictured Thursday. The project’s first phase has been completed and will open to the public on June 18. **CLOE POISSON PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

GLASTONBURY Pushback may delay hearing on project

Opponents speak out against development with affordable housing

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

A developer’s proposal to build an apartment building in Glastonbury with nearly two dozen units set aside as affordable housing hit so much public opposition last month that the company wants a delay before the next public hearing.

About 35 residents spoke against Manchester/Hebron LLC’s plan for a five-story, 74-unit apartment complex when a hearing began May 17. The session was scheduled to resume Tuesday evening, but has been put off until June 21.

“The applicants have requested more time to address staff, commission and public comment,” the commission announced Friday on the municipal webpage.

The proposal is for 51 apartments along with another 23 rent-restricted at “affordable” under Connecticut’s criteria. That amounts to 30%, enough to qualify as a “set aside development.”

State law in such cases leaves local planners with far less flexibility to reject applications — even in the face of public opposition. A zoning board needs evidence of a public health or safety concern that’s so significant it outweighs the local need for affordable housing.

Glastonbury is among the wealthier suburbs in central Connecticut and has acknowledged that less than 6% of its housing qualifies as affordable. The state target is for each community to have at least 10%.

“There is certainly a need for affordable housing here in Glastonbury,” Andrea Gomes, the developer’s attorney, told the commission in May.

Manchester/Hebron LLC, headed by Richard Hayes Jr.,

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‘Symphony in the Park’ returns

After more than a decade, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra is once again playing outdoors in Bushnell Park with a free concert at 2 p.m. today. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

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A tribute to work

An artist bought a building and spent 22 years creating a massive mural honoring American workers. It will soon be open for viewing.

By Susan Dunne | Hartford Courant

In 1999, Sharon artist Ellen Griesedieck visited a Boeing aviation plant, watched several men working on a jet engine and had a brainstorm. She wanted to create an artwork to reflect both the honor of those working men and the vitality of their work.

She tried and couldn’t do it. “I stretched a canvas as big as my studio, and that wasn’t big enough,” Griesedieck said. “I wasn’t happy with what I could do, but I wanted to keep going and figure it out.”

Her vision morphed into something bigger, an enormous mural that would pay homage to not just aviation workers but to all working people. Griesedieck made it her life’s work. “The minute you get an idea like this, it kind of takes over,” she said.

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The American Mural Project is made from a variety of media, and schoolchildren helped Griesedieck create the artwork.

Marchers step up for gun violence victims

State leaders, survivors, activists join nation in push for awareness

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

Survivors and the families of victims of the Sandy Hook school shooting, gun law lobbyists, activists and lawmakers marched through Newtown on Friday night to mark National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

The solemn day of recognition comes just 10 days after a gunman opened fire on an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, killing 21

people in a tragedy all too familiar for many Connecticut families.

Leaders from Connecticut-based organizations such as Sandy Hook Promise, the Newtown Action Alliance, the Jr. Newtown Action Alliance and the national Moms Demand Action movement — all of which were started in the wake of the Sandy Hook shooting — were joined by people from CT Against Gun Violence and CT Community Violence Intervention, and U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, who is fighting for stricter gun laws to be passed by Congress.

According to Sandy Hook Promise — a gun violence prevention

nonprofit co-founded by Nicole Hockley and Mark Barden, who both had sons who were killed in Sandy Hook — National Gun Violence Awareness Day was started by teens in Chicago who “refused to be silent in the face of gun violence.”

The teens launched the day of action after their friend, 15-year-old Hadiya Pendleton, was killed by a stray bullet in the city.

To recognize the day activists asked that people all across the nation wear orange, Pendleton’s favorite color and a color worn by hunters to protect themselves from gunfire, to raise awareness for victims of gun violence.

Her friends chose the June date in honor of her birthday, according to CT Against Gun Violence. The national “Wear Orange” events are held to remember victims, celebrate survivors and renew pledges to work together to end gun violence.

Jeremy Stein, executive director of CT Against Gun Violence, said there is no doubt that there’s been an increase in gun-related injuries and deaths right here in Connecticut over the past few years.

CT Against Gun Violence also hosted a “Wear Orange” event Thursday night in New Haven,

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March

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focused on the public health crisis of community gun violence and how it disproportionately victimizes Black and brown communities in Connecticut.

Last month 10 Black people were killed in a racially motivated mass shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo.

In the United States the Gun Violence Archive tracked 233 mass shootings so far in 2022.

The organization has recorded 8,176 gun violence deaths in the U.S. so far this year — 18,340 when counting firearms deaths by suicide.

Moms Demand Action CT was also at the event in Newtown. The national grassroots organization, fighting for safety measures to protect people from gun violence, was started by Shannon Watts, a mother of five who was moved to organize following the Sandy Hook shooting.

“In the wake of multiple tragedies, the fight to end gun violence has never been more urgent,” Moms Demand Action said in a statement.

The group said that across the nation thousands of people will be wearing orange this weekend in memory of Pendleton and the more than 40,000 people who are killed with guns and approximately 85,000 who are shot and wounded every year.

Sen. Blumenthal said he’s hopeful the Senate can soon pass a bipartisan gun law package, including measures he’s been championing for years, as he and his colleagues continue to discuss a path forward on bipartisan gun violence prevention measures following shootings in Buffalo, Uvalde, Tulsa and countless communities nationwide.

Housing

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wants to build nine efficiencies, 52 one-bedroom apartments and 13 two-bedroom units. The efficiencies would run 540 square feet, the one-bedrooms would range from 651 to 781 square feet, and the two-bedrooms would be 972 to 1,000 square feet.

The company said all apartments will be priced “within the reach of moderate income households,” but said the rent-restricted units will lease for \$765 to \$938 for an efficiency, \$929 to \$1,140 for a one-bedroom and \$1,152 to \$1,413 for a two-bedroom unit.

“We have filed this application under General Statute 8-30G, Connecticut’s affordable housing land use appeals act,” Gomes said.

The 23 affordable units would be restricted for 40 years to households earning 80% or less of the state median income, which ranges from \$45,000 to \$80,000 a year based on family size.

More than two dozen residents either showed up at the May hearing, appeared on Zoom or submitted written comments, all opposing the project.

Diana Wind of Hurlburt Street said she’s concerned that wildlife in Glastonbury’s disappearing wood-



A rendering of Buckingham Place, a 74-unit apartment complex planned for Manchester Road in Glastonbury. TOWN OF GLASTONBURY/COURTESY

lands would be displaced — and end up in neighbors’ properties.

“We’ve all seen the bears, the foxes, the coyotes. We keep taking away their areas. Where are they going to go? Our backyards,” she said.

Wind also said new traffic created by the apartments would jeopardize children in the neighborhood.

Jim Miselis of Woodhaven Road told commissioners the building’s size would be out of character for the neighborhood.

“It’s going to be five stories high. There isn’t an office building in town that’s close to five stories — a few hotels by the bridge, that’s it,” he said.

Current zoning allows only 2.5

stories, and that’s for business development.

“High-density multifamily housing is not a business. It’s apartments,” Miselis said. “This particular apartment complex does not serve the community. The high density is just bad planning.”

The hearing resumes June 21 at 7 p.m. at town hall.

McGrath

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suspects are responsible and do not represent the St. Joseph’s community,” Kevin McGrath said Friday, reminding friends and family that many of his son’s lacrosse teammates attend the Trumbull school and are mourning Jimmy as well.

The fates of Valle and his accomplices in the incident are in the hands of investigators and prosecutors, he said. As they await court proceedings, McGrath asked that the community keep the peace in their towns and schools, especially as teens celebrate their proms,

sports championships and graduations.

“Our family calls for a time of peace and de-escalation,” said McGrath. “Please let the detectives and the state’s attorney’s office do their jobs.”

Kevin McGrath said he plans to attend Valle’s upcoming court appearances. Valle is charged with one count of first-degree murder and three counts of first-degree assault. He is scheduled to appear in court next for a remote hearing on July 15, according to court records.

Thousands of people attended a wake, funeral and prayer service held for Jimmy McGrath in the

week following the stabbing, a show of support the McGrath family called miraculous.

“Although Jimmy has passed, what our family has experienced is nothing short of a miracle,” said Kevin McGrath.

That support, he said, has been the source of their strength as they grapple with their grief.

“We would like to thank our entire community for your support and your compassion,” he said. “You are helping us navigate through an unbearable time in our lives.”

The McGraths, joined by attorney Michael Rosnick, said they are continuing to pray for a full recovery for the three other teens who

were stabbed at the party the night Jimmy died. They said they’re also sending their love to the families of two other Shelton teens who died this year: Matthew Horvath, 18, a graduate of the Shelton High School class of 2021 where he played varsity soccer, died in a jet ski collision last summer, and Xavier Sandor, 19, died in April while stationed in Virginia with the U.S. Navy. He had been the quarterback of the Shelton High School football team and also graduated in 2021, according to his obituary.

Rosnick asked that anyone with any information on Jimmy’s death contact the Shelton Police Department.

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LOTTERY
Friday, June 3

PLAY3 DAY 0 7 5 WB: 2	PLAY4 DAY 5 4 1 3 WB: 4
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The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

THURSDAY’S LATE NUMBERS

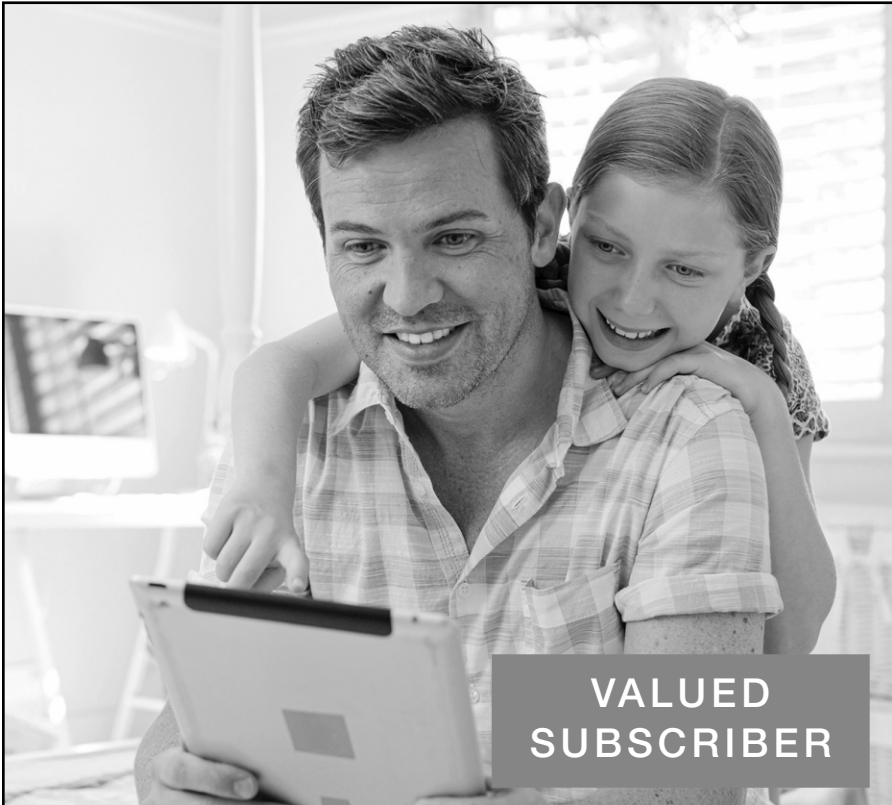
PLAY3 NIGHT
8 7 6 WB: 4

PLAY4 NIGHT
4 7 2 3 WB: 1

CASH 5
5 13 25 27 29

LUCKY FOR LIFE
3 28 32 38 39 LB: 18

Tuesday’s est. Lotto jackpot: \$1 million
Tonight’s est. Powerball jackpot: \$184 million



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FROM PAGE ONE

WAR IN UKRAINE

Russian invasion grinds to 100th day

Despite early claim, Kremlin indicates it will annex more land

Associated Press

When Vladimir Putin sent troops into Ukraine in late February, the Russian president vowed his forces would not occupy the country. But as the invasion reached its 100th day Friday, Moscow seemed increasingly unwilling to relinquish the territory it has taken in the war.

The ruble is now an official currency in the southern Kherson region, alongside the Ukrainian hryvnia. Residents there and in Russia-controlled parts of the Zaporizhzhia region are being offered expedited Russian passports. The Kremlin-installed administrations in both regions have talked about plans to become part of Russia.

The Moscow-backed leaders of separatist areas in eastern Ukraine's Donbas region, which is mostly Russian-speaking, have expressed similar intentions. Putin recognized the separatists' self-proclaimed republics as independent two days before launching the invasion, and fierce fighting has been underway in the east for weeks as Russia seeks to "liberate" all of the Donbas.

The Kremlin has largely kept quiet about its plans for the cities, towns and villages it has bombarded, encircled and finally captured. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov has said it will be up to the people living in seized areas to decide their status.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said this week that enemy forces now control almost 20% of the



Members of a bomb disposal unit in the Ukrainian State Emergency Service prepare for a controlled demolition of Russian munitions that were recovered during a demining operation Friday near Borodianka. CHRISTOPHER FURLONG/GETTY

country's territory. Before the war, Russia controlled 7%, including the Crimea Peninsula and parts of the Donbas.

But in a video message marking the war's first 100 days, Zelenskyy made it clear Ukraine will not submit easily.

"We have defended Ukraine for 100 days already. Victory will be ours," he said.

On Friday, the skies around Sievierodonetsk were heavy with smoke, with artillery fire and explosions sounding on and off throughout the day as Russian and Ukrainian forces traded blows in a fierce battle for the eastern city.

Ukrainian troops were moving heavy guns and howitzers along the roads toward the front line, pouring men and armor into the fight as Russian artillery targeted Ukrainian guns.

U.S. President Joe Biden, meanwhile, said he believes "there's going to have to be a negotiated settlement" to end the war. Asked if Ukraine should give up territory in exchange for peace, the president said, "It's their territory" and "I'm not going to tell them what they should and shouldn't do."

Initially, at least, annexing more land from Ukraine was not believed to be the main goal of the invasion. It

was widely thought that the Kremlin intended to install a pro-Moscow government in Kyiv that would prevent Ukraine from joining NATO and pulling further away from Russia's influence.

But now, Moscow is unlikely to let go of its military gains, according to political analysts.

"Of course (Russia) intends to stay," said Andrei Kolesnikov, senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. To Russia, "it's a pity to give away what has been occupied, even if it was not part of the original plan."

Russian forces captured much of Kherson and neigh-

boring Zaporizhzhia early in the war, gaining control over most of Ukraine's Sea of Azov coast and securing a partial land corridor to the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014. They completed the takeover last month with the capture of the port city of Mariupol following a three-month siege.

Residents of the cities of Kherson and Melitopol have protested the occupation, facing off with Russian soldiers in plazas. Ukrainian officials warned that Russia might stage a referendum in Kherson to declare the region an independent state.

Petro Kobernyk, 31, a

nongovernmental organization activist who fled Kherson with his wife, said Russian security forces are cracking down on pro-Ukrainian activists.

"Hundreds of pro-Ukrainian activists, including my friends, are being held in the basements of security services," Kobernyk said by phone. "Those who actively express their position are kidnapped and tortured, threatened and forced out of the region."

Russian forces keep people in an "information vacuum," with Ukrainian websites no longer available, Kobernyk said.

But some in captured areas of Ukraine have welcomed a Russian takeover.

"I've wanted to live in Russia since I was little, and now I realize I don't even have to move anywhere," said Vadim Romanova, a 17-year-old from Mariupol.

In Russian-occupied cities in southern Ukraine, people with pro-Kremlin views replaced mayors and other local leaders who disappeared in what Ukrainian officials and media said were kidnappings. Russian flags were raised, and Russian state broadcasts that promoted the Kremlin's version of the invasion supplanted Ukrainian TV channels.

The Russian ruble was introduced as the second official currency in both the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions — at least in the parts under Russian control — and pro-Russian administrations started offering a "one-time social payment" of 10,000 rubles, or roughly \$163, to local residents.

The New York Times contributed.

Mural

from Page 1

She bought an old, vacant woolen mill in Winsted to house her massive artwork. She considered a place where people worked to be the perfect venue. "It's a tribute to work. These are the cathedrals in this country," she said.

She spent 22 years creating it, aided by countless schoolchildren and by a crew of the same sort of men seen in the mural. "I love that it's a tribute to everyone who works, and the only way to get it up there is working with these guys," she said.

Griesedieck, now 74, is finally finishing it. The American Mural Project, at 120 feet wide and five stories high, will be open to the public three days a week starting June 18.

The mural is the crowning achievement in a long career in visual arts. Griesedieck worked as a photographer for Sports Illustrated and the NFL. As a graphic designer, she is most famous for designing the original label for Newman's Own salad dressing. Paul Newman was a friend of Griesedieck's husband, architect and race car driver Sam Posey. In her spare time, she painted, and got inspiration and advice from her friend, artist Frank Stella.

Workers

The spectacular collage is a salute to aerospace workers, police officers, firefighters, truckers, sailors, schoolteachers, heart surgeons, athletes, dockworkers, musicians, fishermen, electrical linemen, railroad workers, foundry workers, writers, construction workers, press operators, automakers, metalworkers, miners, farmers and other workers.

"If you are going to come, by the time you leave you will have found yourself in there somewhere," she said. Guests even can literally find themselves in the mural, by standing in a hole in the middle of the collage for photographs.

The artwork is so big it requires three viewing levels to fully experience it. As part of the mill conversion, Griesedieck



A man walks across the floor at the American Mural Project, a massive mural that celebrates workers that was started 22 years ago by artist Ellen Griesedieck in an old mill in Winsted. CLOE POISSON PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

installed a catwalk platform that hugs the sides of the building, winding around the mural, to give various angles to contemplate the artistry.

Guests are even permitted to examine it close up and — unusual for displayed artworks — to touch it. "I want people to appreciate the textures," she said.

The textures come from a variety of media used to create the images: acrylic paint, metal, blown glass, found objects, marble, spackle, ceramics. The far right-hand segment of the mural honoring Habitat for Humanity homebuilders is made from chunks of wood from real Habitat projects, including one autographed by former President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn.

Parts of the piece show the George Washington Bridge, an abstracted Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building, with windows colored in iridescent shades.

Friends

Griesedieck made a point of getting to know all of the people she depicts in her mural, traveling around the country to meet and spend



The American Mural Project includes workers of all kinds.

time with men and women at work.

The towering centerpiece of the artwork is a 16-foot-tall depiction of NYPD Officer Edwin Raymond. Griesedieck met him after seeing him on the cover of New York Times magazine. She admired the story, about his lawsuit against the NYPD. "He wasn't getting enough collars. ... He didn't want to arrest people. He wanted to help people," she said.

The firefighter to Raymond's right is named Melissa, who looks upward with a look of concern, in her blue-and-yellow jacket. Manley, Pete and Jeff are three men who work on a

fishing boat. Griesedieck painted their portraits after spending a day on their boat.

In the center of the work is a class of Fairfield sixth graders, with teacher Kathy Reddy. She pointed to a boy in a blue hoodie. "He's a senior in college now," she said.

In the upper left-hand corner is a brilliant blue image of a man on a metal girder. "That's Bob on the beam. He was constructing the Westside Highway," she said.

The piano to the left of Raymond is dotted with musical scores lent to her by supporters — such as cellist Yo Yo Ma and Teddy Gentry,

the bassist for country band Alabama — or chosen from an archive. A bit of the Beach Boys hit "God Only Knows" is among the scores on the piano, demonstrating that song's distinctive instrumentation. The son of one of the members of the Wrecking Crew helped her get that.

Griesedieck compared her mural to a still life painting. "People might think that putting all these images together would cause chaos and confusion. But it's kind of like a still life. You put together a banana, a baseball and an orange and you arrange it to make it work as a painting. I am doing that," she said. "There is a rhythm you have to create to make the piece work as art."

Children

Schoolchildren helped Griesedieck create the artwork, including that sixth grade Fairfield class and many others who visited during its creation. One figure in the lower left-hand corner of the mural, a fiery yellow and orange image of a foundry worker wielding a huge mallet, was made entirely by kids. "It's a ceramic piece. Kids like to stick their fingers into

things," she said.

Other than workers, Griesedieck wants her project to honor children. In addition to kids helping her create the mural, they also created artworks installed on the wall behind the mural, along the catwalk. That phase of the project will be ever-changing.

She plans to offer school, after-school and summer programs and has taken on 10 teaching artists. "I want to see an ongoing list of activities involving kids," she said.

After unveiling the artwork to the public, Griesedieck said her work is not done yet. "I can't say anything is complete until I'm in a box," she said. More renovations have to be done to the building, and the building behind it. They will be connected by a walkway.

The work was done with \$4.1 million in funding. Of that, \$1 million came via a state challenge grant that former Gov. Dannel Malloy pledged when the project had raised \$1.4 million. The remaining funds are donations from corporations, foundations and individuals.

Griesedieck said one of her favorite aspects of the project was the collaborative spirit between her and the crew members who lifted the immensely heavy pieces into place and secured them onto the metal framing structure.

"I can get so down about the world. ... It's dispiriting. Here, we never talk about [political] parties. All anyone cares about is how to work together to get things done," she said. "What we do here is better because we do it together. I wish people all over the country could feel that. It's a real high."

The American Mural Project is at 90 Whiting St. in Winsted. Beginning June 18, it will be open year-round Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Thursday hours are planned for the future. Admission is \$12, \$10 seniors, \$5 students, ages 4 and younger free, \$25 for a season pass. A gala, The Art of Work, will be held Sept. 17. americanmuralproject.org.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

US indicts ex-Trump aide Navarro

Contempt charges for defying Jan. 6 panel subpoena

By Michael Balsamo, Eric Tucker and Farnoush Amiri
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former Trump White House official Peter Navarro was indicted Friday on contempt charges after defying a subpoena from the House panel investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Navarro is former President Donald Trump's second aide to be charged with contempt of Congress for refusing to cooperate with the investigation. His arrest comes months after the indictment of former White House adviser Steve Bannon.

Navarro, 72, was charged with one contempt count for failing to appear for a deposition before the House committee and a second charge for failing to produce documents the committee requested.

During an initial court appearance on Friday, Navarro alleged that the Justice Department had committed "prosecutorial misconduct" and said that he was told he could not contact anyone after he was approached by an FBI agent at the airport on Friday and put in handcuffs. He said he was arrested while trying to board a flight to Nashville, Tennessee, for a television appearance.

"Who are these people? This is not America," Navarro said. "I was a distinguished public servant for four years!"

During the hearing, he



Peter Navarro claimed executive privilege in refusing to meet with the Jan. 6 committee. DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2020

said the House committee was a "sham committee" and that prosecutors were "playing hardball" and were "despicable." If convicted, each charge carries a minimum sentence of a month in jail and a maximum of a year behind bars.

The indictment underscores that the Justice Department is continuing to pursue criminal charges against Trump associates who have attempted to impede or stonewall the work of congressional investigators examining the most significant attack on U.S. democracy in decades.

But later on Friday, the Justice Department

declined to charge Mark Meadows and Dan Scavino, two other top officials who have also refused to cooperate.

The pair engaged in weeks of negotiations with the committee's lawyers, and Meadows, Trump's former chief of staff, turned over more than 9,000 documents to the panel, before the House voted to charge them with contempt.

A spokesperson for the DOJ did not immediately respond to a request for comment. A lawyer for Scavino, a Trump adviser, declined to comment.

The indictment against Navarro alleges that, when

summoned to appear before the committee for a deposition, he refused to do so and told the panel that because Trump had invoked executive privilege, "my hands are tied."

After committee staff told him they believed there were topics he could discuss without raising any executive privilege concerns, Navarro again refused, according to the indictment. The committee went ahead with its deposition on March 2, but he did not attend.

The indictment came days after Navarro revealed in a court filing that he also had been subpoenaed to appear before a grand jury this week

as part of the Justice Department's sprawling probe into the deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

"This was a preemptive strike by the prosecution against that lawsuit," Navarro told Magistrate Judge Zia Faruqui during his court appearance. "It simply flies in the face of good faith and due process."

Navarro, who was a trade adviser to Trump, said he was served the subpoena by the FBI at his Washington, D.C., home last week. The subpoena was the first known instance of prosecutors seeking testimony from someone who worked in the Trump White House as they

investigate the attack. Prosecutors said the indictment was handed down Thursday night.

Navarro made the case in his lawsuit Tuesday that the House select committee investigating the attack is unlawful and therefore a subpoena it issued to him in February is unenforceable under law.

He filed the suit against members of the committee, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and the U.S. attorney in Washington, Matthew Graves, whose office is now handling the criminal case against him.

In an interview with The Associated Press this week, Navarro said the goal of his lawsuit is much broader than the subpoenas themselves, part of an effort to have "the Supreme Court address a number of issues that have come with the weaponization of Congress' investigatory powers" since Trump entered office.

Members of the select committee sought testimony from Navarro about his public efforts to help Trump overturn the 2020 presidential election, including a call trying to persuade state legislators to join their efforts.

Navarro has refused to cooperate with the committee, and he and fellow Trump adviser Dan Scavino were found in contempt of Congress in April.

Members of the committee made their case at the time that Scavino and Navarro were among just a handful of people who had rebuffed the committee's requests and subpoenas for information.

The New York Times contributed

Pence aide warned Secret Service day before Jan. 6

Trump was to turn publicly on VP, book research reveals

By Maggie Haberman
The New York Times

The day before a mob of former President Donald Trump's supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, Vice President Mike Pence's chief of staff called Pence's lead Secret Service agent to his West Wing office.

The chief of staff, Marc Short, had a message for the agent, Tim Giebels: The president was going to turn publicly against the vice president, and there could be a security risk to Pence because of it.

The warning — the only time Short flagged a security concern during his tenure as Pence's top aide — was uncovered recently during research by this reporter for an upcoming book, "Confidence Man: The Making of Donald Trump and the Breaking of America," to be published in October.

Short did not know what form such a security risk might take, according to people familiar with the events. But after days of intensifying pressure from Trump on Pence to take the

extraordinary step of intervening in the certification of the Electoral College count to forestall Trump's defeat, Short seemed to have good reason for concern. The vice president's refusal to go along was exploding into an open and bitter breach between the two men at a time when the president was stoking the fury of his supporters who were streaming into Washington.

It is unclear what, if anything, Giebels did with the warning.

A day after Short's warning, more than 2,000 people — some chanting "Hang Mike Pence" — stormed the Capitol as the vice president was overseeing the certification of Joe Biden's victory. Outside, Trump supporters had erected a mock gallows. After Pence was hustled to safety, Mark Meadows, the White House chief of staff, is reported to have told colleagues that Trump said that perhaps Pence should have been hanged.

A Secret Service spokesperson did not respond to an email seeking comment. A spokesperson for Pence declined to comment.

A few weeks after Election Day on Nov. 3, 2020, aides to Pence learned that some in Trump's loose network of advisers were

discussing the possibility of Jan. 6, 2021 — set under statute as the day of the Electoral College certification — as a potentially critical date in Trump's efforts to stay in power. Soon, Pence asked his general counsel, Greg Jacob, to write a memo explaining what his powers were during certification.

The memo did not take a clear position, but Pence's advisers concluded that the vice president had no authority to dictate the outcome. But Pence and his team were faced with regular pressure from a cast of Trump supporters arguing he did have such power.

At the end of December, Pence traveled to Vail, Colorado, for a family vacation. While there, his aides received a request for him to meet with Sidney Powell, a lawyer who promoted far-fetched conspiracy theories about flaws in voting machines, and whom Trump wanted to bring into the White House, ostensibly to investigate his false claims of widespread voter fraud.

The meeting request was relayed through Kelli Ward, chair of the Arizona Republican Party, according to a person familiar with the exchange. Ward had joined a suit filed by Rep. Louie Gohmert, R-Texas, that



Former Vice President Mike Pence speaks at a campaign event on May 23 for Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp. Trump supporters threatened Pence on Jan. 6. ELIJAH NOUVELAGE/GETTY-APF

asked a court to say that Pence could decide whether to accept or reject slates of electors from states during the Electoral College certification.

The suit was asserting what Pence's aides argued he did not have the power to do. Some Pence advisers were suspicious that Powell wanted to serve the vice president with legal papers related to the case.

Short objected to Ward's support of the suit. She relayed to him that they would not pursue it if Trump was uneasy with it.

(The proposed meeting with Powell never happened.) Powell and a spokesperson for Ward did not respond to emails seeking comment.

There were other points of friction that left the Pence team on high alert. Meadows told Short that the president was withholding approval of a pot of transition funding for Pence to establish a post-White House office.

Trump tweeted on the morning of Jan. 5 that Pence could reject electors. He had tried to persuade some of his informal advisers outside the White House to go to

the Naval Observatory, the vice president's official residence, to seek an audience to pressure Pence. That day, Trump spoke with Pence again, pressing him to do what the vice president said he could not.

On Jan. 5, at about 1 p.m., Pence released a memo making clear that he disagreed with the president about his power to intervene in the certification. The memo was not shared with the White House counsel in advance; the trust between the offices was shattered by then.



Visitors mourn on Friday at a makeshift memorial outside Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. ERIC GAY/AP

Families of NY, Texas victims to testify before House panel

By Farnoush Amiri
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Parents of victims and survivors of the mass shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde will appear before a House committee next week in an effort to bring home the devastation of America's gun violence epidemic.

Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., the chairwoman of the Oversight Committee, said Friday the hearing will examine the human

impact of gun violence and the urgency for lawmakers to enact gun control legislation.

"It is my hope that all my colleagues will listen with an open heart as gun violence survivors and loved ones recount one of the darkest days of their lives," Maloney said in a statement. "This hearing is ultimately about saving lives, and I hope it will galvanize my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass legislation to do just that."

The panel for Wednesday's hearing will include testimony from the mother of a 20-year-old man who was shot in a racist mass shooting May 14 in a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, as well as the parents of a 10-year-old girl shot and killed 10 days later in her elementary school in Uvalde, Texas.

The panel will also hear from Miah Cerrillo, a fourth grader who covered herself in her dead classmate's blood and played

dead to survive the shooting rampage in Uvalde in which 19 children and two teachers were killed.

The committee said the testimonies will take place either in person or virtually.

The announcement of the hearing comes days after the Oversight Committee launched an investigation into five leading manufacturers of the semi-automatic weapons used in both recent shootings.

It also comes a day after President Joe Biden issued

his strongest appeal yet for Congress to take action on guns as bipartisan talks are intensifying among a core group of senators.

The private discussions in the Senate, which is split 50-50 between Democrats and Republicans, are not expected to produce the kinds of sweeping reforms being considered by the Democratic-led House — which has approved expansive background checks legislation and will next turn to an assault weapons ban.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Biden affirms human rights commitment as he warms to Saudis

From news services

REHOBOTH BEACH, Del. — President Joe Biden said Friday he hasn’t changed his views on human rights despite his administration’s praise of Saudi Arabia — which he’d pledged to make a “pariah” over its abuses — for getting key oil producers to step up production.

Biden said he wasn’t sure whether he was going to Saudi Arabia and has “no direct plans at the moment” to visit the kingdom. He acknowledged he expects to meet with the leaders of Israel and some Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia, at some point.

“Look, I’m not going to change my view on human rights,” Biden told reporters after delivering remarks on the May jobs report, when asked about possible travel to Saudi Arabia. “But as president of the United States, my job is to bring peace if I can, peace if I can. And that’s what I’m going to try to do.”

As a candidate for the White House, he pledged to treat Saudis as a “pariah”-based the 2018 killing of U.S.-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi, a critic of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman’s brutal ways. U.S. intelligence officials determined that the crown prince likely approved the killing.

Biden sidestepped questions from reporters about whether he would meet with the prince, should he visit the kingdom.

“We’re getting way ahead of ourselves here,” Biden said. “What I want to do is see to it that we diminish the likelihood that there’s a continuation of this, some of the senseless wars between Israel and the Arab nations, and that’s what I’m focused on.”

The OPEC+ group — OPEC nations plus Russia —

announced Thursday they would raise production by 648,000 barrels per day in July and August, offering modest relief for a struggling global economy impaired by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

OPEC, whose de facto leader is Saudi Arabia, had for months resisted White House pressure to increase oil supply more quickly.

Biden on Friday called the move by OPEC+ “positive,” but said he did not know if it would be significant enough to help Americans at the pump. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre on Thursday credited Saudi Arabia for its role “in achieving consensus” within the oil producers’ bloc.

Queen’s jubilee: Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, joined other members of Britain’s royal family on Friday for a church service honoring Queen Elizabeth II’s 70 years on the throne, making their first public appearance in the U.K. since stepping back from royal duties two years ago.

The queen skipped the event at St. Paul’s Cathedral in London, which came on the second of four days of festivities marking her Platinum Jubilee. The 96-year-old monarch experienced “some discomfort” after smiling and waving to throngs of supporters Thursday afternoon from the balcony of Buckingham Palace.

But royal-watchers quickly shifted their focus to Harry and Meghan, who held hands as they walked down the central aisle accompanied only by a military officer in a scarlet dress tunic. Other guests craned their necks to watch the couple take their places in the second row, underscoring their lesser roles as nonworking members of the royal family.



Rescue workers and police gather Friday at the site of a train derailment in Burgrain, Germany, near the Bavarian Alpine resort town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Police said at least four people were killed and about 30 others injured when three of the train’s cars partially overturned. The cause of the wreck was not immediately clear. JOSEF HORNSTEINER/MÜNCHNER MERKUR

Harry and Meghan sparked tensions within the royal family when they moved to California and signed lucrative media contracts. The rift deepened after they made allegations of racism and bullying in the royal household.

New Chinese carrier: China’s most advanced aircraft carrier to date appears to be nearing completion, satellite photos analyzed by The Associated Press showed Friday, as experts suggested the vessel could be launched soon.

The Type 003 carrier has been under construction northeast of Shanghai since 2018. Satellite images taken May 31 suggest work on the vessel is close to done.

The launch, long anticipated, constitutes what the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank called a “seminal moment in China’s ongoing modernization efforts and a symbol of the country’s growing military might.”

The U.S. Department of Defense estimates that the carrier won’t be fully operational until 2024, first needing to undergo extensive sea trials. Its development is part of a broader modernization of China’s military as it seeks to extend its influence in the region.

Iowa church shooting: A man who fatally shot two women before killing himself in the parking lot of an Iowa church had been romantically involved with one of the women and faced a court hearing next week on a charge of harassing her, investigators said Friday.

Johnathan Lee Whitlatch, 33, of Boone, pulled up in a pickup truck to 22-year-old Eden Montag, 21-year-old Vivian Flores and another woman just before 7 p.m. Thursday outside Cornerstone Church on the outskirts of Ames and began shooting with a 9 mm handgun, they said.

Montag and Flores were killed, Story County Sheriff

Paul Fitzgerald said, and Whitlatch shot himself. The women were friends and students at Iowa State University who were walking together to the church for a weekly service, the sheriff said.

Whitlatch and Montag had recently broken up, Fitzgerald said, and investigators believe Whitlatch’s intent was to kill her.

Texas escapee: A convicted murderer on the run since escaping a prison bus last month was fatally shot by law enforcement in Texas after he killed five members of the same family, including four children, and stole a truck from their rural cabin, officials said.

Gonzalo Lopez, 46, died in a shootout with police late Thursday in Jourdan, about 35 miles south of San Antonio, after driving the pickup more than 200 miles from the cabin, said Jason Clark, spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He had been

on the run since stabbing a prison bus driver on May 12.

When Lopez was shot, he had an AR-15-style rifle and a pistol that authorities say may have been taken from the cabin, Clark said.

Monkeypox in US: Genetic analysis of recent monkeypox cases suggests there are two strains in the U.S., health officials said Friday, raising the possibility that the virus has been circulating undetected for some time.

Many of the U.S. cases were caused by the same strain as recent cases in Europe, but a few samples show a different strain, federal health officials said. Each strain had been seen in U.S. cases last year, before the recent international outbreak was identified.

Analysis from many more patients will be needed to determine how long monkeypox has been circulating in the U.S. and elsewhere, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Harini Logan celebrates with her family Thursday after winning the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Maryland. It’s the first national title for the 14-year-old Texan. ALEX BRANDON/AP

No more near-misses: Teen wins national bee in spell-off

By Ben Nuckols
Associated Press

OXON HILL, Md. — Harini Logan kept trying to learn from her near-misses in online spelling bees. Long recognized as one of the best spellers in the English language, she had never taken home a national title.

In the biggest bee of them all, she endured a new series of setbacks, but was still there at the end.

Harini was eliminated, then reinstated, during the Scripps National Spelling Bee’s much-debated multiple-choice vocabulary round. She misspelled four times as Scripps’ most challenging words proved too much for her and Vikram Raju, who also got four wrong in the closing stretch. And then she finally took down Vikram in the bee’s first-ever lightning-round tiebreaker on Thursday night.

Call her spelling’s version of “The Revenant.”

“Harini has been to hell and back with her spelling bee experiences,” said her longtime coach, Grace Walters.

The 14-year-old eighth-grader from San Antonio,

Texas, who competed in the last fully in-person bee three years ago and endured the pandemic to make it back, spelled 22 words correctly during the 90-second spell-off, beating Vikram by seven.

The winning word, according to Scripps, was “moorhen,” which means the female of the red grouse, because that was the one that moved her past Vikram. Judges announced at the bee that Harini’s word total was 21, but she was credited with one more after a review.

Harini, a crowd favorite, won more than \$50,000 in cash and prizes. She is the first Scripps champion to be reinstated during the competition. And that was before her four late stumbles.

She is the fifth Scripps champion to be coached by Walters, a former speller, fellow Texan and student at Rice University who is considering bowing out of the coaching business.

Harini also got help from Navneeth Murali, who handed her one of those runner-ups in the 2020 SpellPundit online bee — a consolation prize for

the Scripps bee that was canceled because of the pandemic.

It was Walters and Navneeth who rushed to the bee judges, along with Harini’s mom, Priya, as soon as Harini walked off the stage in the vocabulary round, seemingly her most crushing disappointment of all.

“My heart stopped for a second,” Harini said.

Harini defined the word “pullulation” as the nesting of mating birds. Scripps said the correct answer was the swarming of bees. Her supporters made the case to the judges that she’d gotten it right. A few minutes later, head judge Mary Brooks announced the reversal.

“We did a little sleuthing after you finished, which is what our job is, to make sure we’ve made the right decision,” Brooks said. “We (did) a little deep dive in that word and actually the answer you gave to that word is considered correct, so we’re going to reinstate you.”

From there, Harini breezed into the finals against Vikram. Harini was faster and sharper throughout, and the judges’ final tally confirmed her victory.

McCormick concedes to Oz in Pa. GOP Senate primary

By Marc Levy
Associated Press

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Former hedge fund CEO David McCormick conceded the Republican primary in Pennsylvania for U.S. Senate to celebrity heart surgeon Dr. Mehmet Oz, ending his campaign Friday night as he acknowledged an ongoing statewide recount wouldn’t give him enough votes to make up the deficit.

McCormick said he had called Oz to concede.

“It’s now clear to me with the recount now largely complete that we have a nominee,” McCormick said at a campaign party at a Pittsburgh hotel. “Tonight is really about us all coming together.”

Before the recount, Oz led McCormick by 972 votes out of 1.34 million votes counted in the May 17 primary.

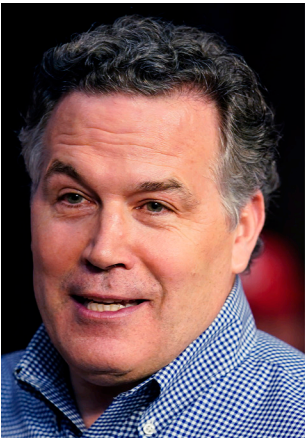
The Associated Press has not declared a winner because an automatic recount is underway and the margin between the two candidates is just 0.07 percentage points.

Friday’s development sets up a general election between Oz, who was endorsed by former President Donald Trump, and Democrat John Fetterman in what is expected to be one of the nation’s premier Senate contests.

Fetterman, the state’s lieutenant governor, acknowledged earlier Friday in a statement that he nearly died when he suffered a stroke days before his primary. He said he had ignored warning signs for years and a doctor’s advice to take blood thinners.

“The stroke I suffered on May 13 didn’t come out of nowhere,” Fetterman said, and “as a result, I almost died. I want to encourage others to not make the same mistake.”

In a separate statement released through



Former hedge fund executive David McCormick, left, conceded the Pennsylvania Republican Senate primary on Friday to celebrity heart surgeon Mehmet Oz. AP

his campaign, Fetterman’s cardiologist disclosed that 52-year-old lawmaker has cardiomyopathy, in which the heart muscle becomes weakened and enlarged. Cardiomyopathy can impede blood flow and potentially cause heartbeats so irregular they can be fatal.

The acknowledgment was the first public comment by a doctor for Fetterman since the candidate first took to social media on May 15 to disclose that he had a stroke.

Oz, who is best known as the host of daytime TV’s “The Dr. Oz Show,” had to overcome millions of dollars in attack ads and misgivings among hard-line Trump backers about his conservative credentials on guns, abortion, transgender rights and other core Republican issues.

Oz, 61, leaned on Trump’s endorsement as proof of his conservative bona fides, while Trump attacked Oz’s rivals and maintained that Oz has the best chance of winning in November in the presidential battleground state.

Rivals made Oz’s dual citizenship in Turkey an issue in the race. If elected, Oz would be the nation’s first Muslim senator.

Born in the United States, Oz served in Turkey’s mili-

tary and voted in its 2018 election. Oz said he would renounce his Turkish citizenship if he won the November election, and he accused McCormick of making “bigoted” attacks.

Oz and McCormick blanketed state airwaves with political ads for months, spending millions of their own money. Virtually unknown four months ago, McCormick had to introduce himself to voters, and he mined Oz’s long record as a public figure for material in attack ads. He got help from a super PAC supporting him that spent \$20 million.

Like McCormick, Oz moved from out of state to run in Pennsylvania.

Oz, a Harvard graduate, New York Times bestselling author and self-styled wellness advocate, lived for the past couple of decades in a mansion in Cliffside Park, New Jersey, above the Hudson River overlooking Manhattan — drawing accusations of being a carpetbagger and political tourist.

The celebrity heart surgeon stressed his connections to Pennsylvania, saying he grew up just over the state border in Delaware, went to medical school in Philadelphia and married a Pennsylvania native.

BUSINESS

COURANT.COM/BUSINESS

US extends hiring streak, but also shows cooldown

Employers add 390,000 jobs in May for the lowest monthly gain in a year

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers added 390,000 jobs in May, extending a streak of solid hiring that has bolstered an economy under pressure from high inflation and rising interest rates.

Last month's gain reflects a resilient job market that has so far shrugged off concerns that the economy will weaken in the coming months as the Federal Reserve steadily raises interest rates to fight inflation. The unemployment rate remained 3.6%, just above a half-century low, the Labor Department said Friday.

The job growth in May, though healthy, was the lowest monthly gain in a year. But it was high enough to keep the Fed on track to pursue what's likely to be the fastest series of rate hikes in more than 30 years.

Businesses in many industries remain desperate to hire because their customers have kept spending freely despite intensifying concerns about high inflation. Americans' finances have been buoyed by

rising pay and an unusually large pile of savings that were accumulated during the pandemic, particularly by higher-income households.

"Given all the talk we've heard about recession and economic headwinds, it was very reassuring to see a solid jobs number," said Mark Vitner, senior economist at Wells Fargo.

One encouraging sign, Vitner said, was that hiring was broad-based across most of the economy.

Nearly every large industry added workers in May. One major exception was retail, which shed nearly 61,000 positions. Some large retailers, including Walmart and Target, have reported disappointing sales and earnings. Last month, Walmart said it had over-hired and then reduced its head count through attrition.

Construction companies added 36,000 jobs, a hopeful sign for Americans who have bought new homes that aren't yet built because of labor and parts shortages. Shipping and warehousing companies, still struggling to keep up with growing online

commerce, added 47,000 jobs. Restaurants, hotels and entertainment venues hired 84,000.

Last month, Friday's report showed, more Americans came off the sidelines of the workforce and found jobs, a strong indication that rising wages and plentiful opportunities are encouraging people to look for work.

Still, the proportion of people who either have a job or are looking for one remains below pre-pandemic levels.

Rising prices might also have led some to take jobs: The number of people age 55 or older who are working rose last month, suggesting that some older Americans are "unretiring" after leaving their jobs — or being laid off — during the pandemic and its aftermath.

Workers, in general, are enjoying nearly unprecedented bargaining power. The number of people who are quitting jobs, typically for better positions at higher pay, has been at or near a record high for six months. Layoffs are at their lowest level on records dating back 20 years.

Walmart to add over 4K jobs with 4 new centers

By Michelle Chapman
Associated Press

Walmart is adding four new fulfillment centers to its existing capacity, a move that will bring more than 4,000 jobs and make next- or two-day shipping available to more Americans.

Walmart said Friday that the first next generation fulfillment center will open over the summer in Joliet, Illinois, 45 miles southeast of Chicago. Two will open next year in McCordsville, Indiana, 20 miles northeast of Indianapolis, and Lancaster, Texas, 16 miles south of Dallas. A fourth one is set to open in 2024 in Greencastle, Pennsylvania.

The announcement comes when consumers are relying on packages being shipped to their homes more than ever before. While online ordering has continued to increase over the years, the pandemic saw a huge surge in such orders as Americans stayed home during lockdowns and had essential items and other goods delivered to their doors. As coronavirus restrictions have eased, many consumers' online ordering habits remain.

Aside from a growth in online orders, Walmart and other retailers are trying to make sure that their shipping speed keeps pace with rival Amazon, which offers same-day, one-day and two-day delivery options for those who pay for its Prime membership.

The next generation centers, which feature robotics and machine learning, will double the capacity and number of orders allowed to be fulfilled in a day, Walmart said. The four facilities will be able to provide 75% of the U.S. population with next- or two-day shipping on millions of items.

When combined with its traditional fulfillment centers, Walmart said it will reach 95% of the U.S. population with next- or two-day shipping.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Teslas' braking spurs Fed inquiry

DETROIT — More than 750 Tesla owners have complained to U.S. safety regulators that cars operating on the automaker's partially automated driving systems have suddenly stopped on roadways for no apparent reason.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration revealed the number in a detailed information request to Tesla that was posted Friday on the agency's website.

The 14-page letter dated May 4 asks the automaker for all consumer and field reports it has received about false braking, as well as reports of crashes, injuries, deaths and property damage claims. It also asks whether the company's "Full Self Driving" and automatic emergency braking systems were active at the time of any incident.

Firm developing armed drones

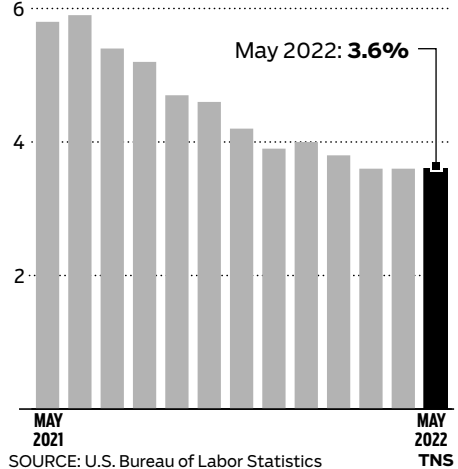
Taser developer Axon said this week it is working to build drones armed with the electric stunning weapons that could fly into schools and "help prevent the next Uvalde, Sandy Hook, or Columbine." But its own technology advisers quickly panned the idea.

The publicly traded company, which sells Tasers and police body cameras, floated the idea of a new police drone product last year to its artificial intelligence ethics board, a group of experts in technology, policing and privacy.

"Drones can't fly through closed doors," said Barry Friedman, a New York University law professor who sits on the Axon AI Ethics Board. "So unless you have a drone in every single classroom in America, which seems insane, the idea just isn't going to work."

Jobless rate

Percent of civilian labor force that is unemployed, by month, seasonally adjusted



Tyler Melanson makes taffy Wednesday at The Goldenrod, a restaurant and candy shop in York Beach, Maine. ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP

Teen job market is red-hot

As employers struggle to fill positions, plenty of summer work available for young folks

By Paul Wiseman and Mae Anderson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Talk to employers in America's vast hospitality sector — hotels, restaurants, public pools, ice cream parlors, pick-your-own strawberry farms — and you'll hear a similar lament. They can't fill many of their summer jobs because the number of open positions far exceeds the number of people willing and able to fill them — even at increased wages.

Some help may be coming: The end of school for the summer is cutting loose millions of high school and college students for the next three months.

Teens — at least those who want a job — are in an unusually commanding position. Researchers at Drexel University's Center for Labor Markets and Policy predicted last month that an average of 33% of youths ages 16 to 19 will be employed each month from June through August this year, the highest such rate since 2007.

And employers might get more help. After restricting immigration as a COVID-

19 precaution, the government is beginning to loosen up: The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has raised the limit on H-2B temporary work permits — used for seasonal work — by 35,000 visas.

Cape Resorts, which operates several boutique hotels, cottages and restaurants in New Jersey and New York, will employ about 120 international students this summer on J-1 visas, work permits that also serve as a kind of cultural exchange program. The company employs about 950 staffers.

"It is great to see the return of our international students as well as returning college students for the summer season," said Cindy D'Aoust, a company executive.

Still, today's level of teen employment isn't close to what it used to be. In August 1978, 50% of America's teenagers were working. Around 2000, teenage employment went into a decadelong slide. In June 2010, during the recovery from the Great Recession, teenage employment bottomed at 25%.

It was more than economic doldrums that kept teens away from work. Longer-term economic forces and changing personal choices contributed too. The U.S. economy now offers fewer low-skill, entry-level jobs than in the 1970s and 1980s. Many

such jobs that do remain, from supermarket clerk to fast-food burger flipper, are more likely to be taken by older workers, many of them immigrants.

And many teens from affluent families, eyeing admission to top universities, have chosen to forgo summer jobs for summer school or volunteer work that bears mention on college applications.

The U.S. unemployment rate is at 3.6%, just above a half-century low. This week, the government reported that employers posted 11.4 million job openings in April. On average, there are now roughly two jobs available for every unemployed American.

Suddenly, teenagers are in much greater demand. And the pay available to them — \$15 or \$16 an hour for entry-level work — is drawing some back into the job market. Teenage employment has already topped pre-pandemic levels even though the overall job market still hasn't.

For teens who want to work and have their choice of jobs, economists and other analysts welcome the reversal in fortune. Summertime jobs give young people experience and make it more likely they will work later in life, the Drexel researchers say — good news for a U.S. labor force that is losing the vast baby boom generation to retirement.

NY lawmakers pass bill to limit cryptomining

By Michael Hill
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — A milestone environmental measure designed to tap the brakes on the spread of cryptocurrency mining operations burning fossil fuels in New York has passed the state Legislature.

The bill approved early Friday by the state Senate would establish a two-year moratorium on new and renewed air permits for fossil fuel power plants used for energy-intensive "proof-of-work" cryptomining. Proof-of-work is the blockchain-based algorithm used by bitcoin and some other cryptocurrencies.

The bill, which supporters say is the first of its kind, now goes to Democratic

Gov. Kathy Hochul for consideration. The governor has said she want to make sure any legislation balances economic and environmental concerns.

Environmentalists who lobbied for the bill said natural gas-burning power plants being used for cryptomining operations threaten the state's ability to meet its long-term climate goals.

"Gov. Hochul signing this legislation sends a signal that New York state is serious about meeting its climate mandates. It shows us that we cannot be re-powering fossil fuel power plants for the purposes of private gain in New York, especially as we're looking to move away from fossil fuels entirely," said Liz Moran of Earthjustice.

Moran said there are potentially dozens of fossil fuel plants in New York that could be converted into mining operations.

Supporters of the cryptocurrency industry said the measure would crimp economic development in New York. The Blockchain Association, an industry group, said it would simply prompt mining operations to move to other states.

Cryptocurrency mining requires specialized computers that consume huge amounts of energy. One study calculated that as of November 2018, bitcoin's annual electricity consumption was comparable to Hong Kong's in 2019, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Some industry miners are looking for ways to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels.

BUSINESS



Elvis impersonator Brendan Paul, right, walks Katie Salvatore and Eric Wheeler down the aisle during a wedding ceremony at the Graceland Wedding Chapel in Las Vegas. JOHN LOCHER/AP

Elvis-themed weddings will end in Vegas, company says

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Las Vegas chapels of love that use Elvis Presley’s likeness could find themselves becoming Heartbreak Hotels.

The licensing company that controls the name and image of “The King” is ordering Sin City chapel operators to stop using Elvis in themed ceremonies, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported Monday. Authentic Brands Group sent cease-and-desist letters in early May to multiple chapels, which are expected to be compliant by now.

With Elvis so closely tied to Vegas’ wedding industry, some say the move could decimate their businesses.

“We are a family-run business, and now we’re hanging with the big dogs,” said Kayla Collins, who operates Las Vegas Elvis Wedding Chapel.com and the Little Chapel of Hearts with her husband. “That’s our bread and butter. I don’t get it. We were just hitting our stride again through COVID, then this happens.”

Clark County Clerk Lynn Goya, who led a marketing campaign promoting Las Vegas as a wedding desti-

nation, said the order for chapels to stop using Elvis couldn’t have come at a worse time.

The city’s wedding industry generates \$2 billion a year, and officials say Elvis-themed weddings represent a significant number of the ceremonies performed.

“It might destroy a portion of our wedding industry. A number of people might lose their livelihood,” Goya said.

One chapel recently had its Elvis impersonator change instead into a leather jacket, jeans and a fedora for a “rock ‘n’ roll” themed ceremony, the Review-Journal reported.

Graceland Wedding Chapel, which performs 6,400 Elvis-themed weddings per year, has not been served a warning yet, according to manager Rod Musum.

Authentic Brands Group did not immediately respond Tuesday to an emailed request for comment.

The licensing company oversees the estates of big names like movie star Marilyn Monroe and boxer Muhammad Ali and 50 consumer brands.

In the cease-and-desist letter, the company said it will halt unauthorized use of “Presley’s name, likeness, voice image, and other elements of Elvis Presley’s persona in advertisements, merchandise and otherwise.” The letter also said “Elvis,” “Elvis Presley,” and “The King of Rock and Roll” are protected trademarks.

The order should not translate into legal action against Elvis-themed stage shows in Las Vegas such as “All Shook Up” because impersonating someone for live performances such as shows is considered an exception under Nevada’s right of publicity law, according to Mark Tratos, a local attorney who helped write the statute.

“An Elvis show is a performer essentially entertaining others by re-creating that person onstage,” Tratos said.

Kent Ripley, whose business is called Elvis Weddings, said he has never run into this issue in 25 years of performing as Elvis.

“They want to protect the Elvis brand. But what are they protecting by taking Elvis away from the public?” Ripley asked.

At Bradley, signs of business travel, pandemic recovery

Air Canada return, Breeze flights offer dose of optimism

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

Two airlines — one returning, the other expanding — are giving Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks an added lift as Connecticut’s largest airport bounces back from lost passenger traffic in the pandemic and providing a optimistic sign for the return of business travel.

Air Canada returned daily, nonstop service to Toronto this week as previously announced after a two-year absence from Bradley, its flights temporarily suspended as the COVID-19 pandemic set in.

And low-fare Breeze Airways, which has served Bradley for a year, is launching six new, previously announced destinations this week: Nashville, TN, Akron/Canton, OH, Savannah, GA, Richmond, VA, Jacksonville, FL and Sarasota/Bradenton, FL. A seventh destination, Las Vegas, will launch after Labor Day.

Passenger traffic — both arriving and departing — at Bradley was 495,123 in March compared with 580,840 in March, 2019, prior to the pandemic, according to the Connecticut Airport Authority, which oversees operations at Bradley. The difference is about 15%.

In 2019, Bradley’s passenger count totaled about 7 million. If travel recovery continues on its current pace, Bradley could again reach that level by the end of 2023, airport officials have said.

Kevin A. Dillon, the CAA’s executive director,



Air Canada has resumed its flights from Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks to Toronto after a two-year hiatus.

ARMANDO FRANCA/AP

said Friday return of Air Canada and the Breeze expansion shows that both airlines see opportunity for growth at Bradley.

Dillon said the flights also signal confidence that business travel is strengthening because Air Canada’s Toronto route and Breeze flights to Akron/Canton and Richmond are popular with passengers flying for business.

“That really bodes well for the recovery of the business travel market which has been lagging behind the leisure travel market,” Dillon said.

Business travel plummeted in the thick of the pandemic, and the trajectory of its return has been uncertain with the adoption of Zoom meetings.

It is still uncertain when Aer Lingus will resume its nonstop flights from Bradley to Dublin, launched in 2016. Dillon has said the airline remains committed to serving Bradley, and he is hopeful the flights to Dublin, with connections to elsewhere in Europe, will return in the spring of 2023.

Canada’s largest airline stopped serving Bradley when the U.S.-Canada border was closed at

the start of the pandemic, except for essential travel. The border reopened last year, but business travel — a major passenger segment for Air Canada — had not recovered enough until now to justify resuming year-round flights.

Breeze is marking its one-year anniversary at Bradley, is now offering 11 nonstop routes from the airport and plans an operations base at the airport. The operations base is expected to create 200 jobs tied to the airline’s expansion in Connecticut.

On Thursday, Breeze added Nashville four times a week on a seasonal basis. On Friday, Akron/Canton and Richmond began flying twice a week on a seasonal basis, plus Jacksonville, four times a week, year-round.

On Saturday, Breeze will launch Savannah, four times a week and Sarasota/Bradenton, twice weekly, both year-round.

On Sept. 7, Breeze plans to begin serving Las Vegas twice a week on a year-round basis.

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.

MARKET RUNDOWN

Saturday, June 4, 2022

↓ DOW
32,899.70 -348.58

↑ 10-YR T-BOND
2.95% +.03

↓ GOLD
\$1,845.40 -21.10

Dow Jones Industrials
Close: 32,899.70
Change: -348.58 (-1.0%)

Commodities

	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
FUELS			
Crude Oil (bbl)	118.87	116.87	+58.05%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	8.52	8.49	+128.50%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	4.25	4.19	+90.83%
METALS			
Gold (oz)	1,845.40	1,866.50	+98%
Silver (oz)	21.89	22.25	-6.16%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx	U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx
Britain	1.2500	.8000	
Canada	.7946	1.2585	
China	.1501	6.6603	
Euro	1.0721	.9328	
Japan	.007643	130.85	
Mexico	.051101	19.5689	

Money Rates

	PREV.	CLOSE	WK.
Prime rate	4.00	4.00	
3-mo. T-Bill	1.19	1.08	
6-mo. T-Bill	1.67	1.52	
5-yr T-Note	2.95	2.71	
10-yr T-Note	2.95	2.75	
30-yr T-Bond	3.11	2.97	

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	14,460.09	-25.08	-1.7%	-8.97%
London	7,532.95	-74.71	-.98%	+2.01%
Hong Kong	21,082.13	...	%	-9.90%
Nikkei	27,761.57	+347.69	+1.27%	-3.58%

Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	32,899.70	-348.58	-9.46%
DOW Trans.	14,444.84	-45.77	-12.34%
DOW Util.	1,020.31	-6.07	+4.03%
NYSE Comp.	15,797.17	-163.36	-7.96%
Nasdaq Comp.	12,012.73	-304.16	-23.22%
S&P 500	4,108.54	-68.28	-13.80%
S&P 400	2,521.13	-28.71	-11.29%
Wilshire 5000	40,945.39	-672.51	-15.51%
Russell 2000	1,883.05	-14.62	-16.13%

Stocks of Local Interest				
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG	
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	12.45	-.85	-54.2	
AT&T Inc (T)	20.90	-.29	-15.0	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	106.30	-2.29	-26.1	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	16.22	-1.24	-9.7	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	70.88	-1.10	-19.0	
Annaly Capital Mgmt (NLY)	6.62	-.03	-15.3	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	145.38	-5.83	-18.1	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	47.37	-.22	-5.0	
Bank of America (BAC)	36.19	-.51	-18.7	
Barnes Group (B)	36.67	+.09	-21.3	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2335.87	-36.49	-2.6	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	75.17	+.10	+20.6	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	94.90	-2.33	-8.0	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	13.51	-.55	-32.9	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	39.59	-.49	-27.0	
Charter Communic (CHTR)	491.07	-7.15	-24.7	
Cigna Corp (CI)	253.97	-9.46	+10.6	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	42.93	-.87	-14.7	
DiDi Global Inc (DIDI)	1.85	-.06	-62.9	
Disney (DIS)	108.67	-2.20	-29.8	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	106.93	-.70	-16.1	
Energy Focus Inc (EFOI)	1.65	+.54	-61.4	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	22.66	-.55	-13.8	
Eversource Energy (ES)	92.30	-.12	+1.5	
Exela Technologies (XELA)	.21	-.01	-75.7	
Ford Motor (F)	13.50	-.39	-35.0	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	4.10	-.22	-21.2	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	230.13	+.69	+10.4	
Gen Electric (GE)	76.97	-1.03	-18.5	
Ginkgo Bioworks Hldg (DNA)	3.66	+.18	-56.0	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	71.88	-.07	+.41	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	194.82	-2.22	-6.6	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	12.15	-.10	-23.7	
Imperial Petroleum (IMPP)	.56	+.04	-73.9	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	19.38	-.13	-23.4	
Intel Corp (INTC)	43.39	-1.45	-15.7	
Iovance Therapeutics (IOVA)	7.85	+.125	-58.9	
Kaman (KAMN)	37.44	+.32	-13.2	
Keycorp (KEY)	19.64	-.28	-15.1	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	55.67	-1.21	-18.9	
M&T Bank (MTB)	177.97	-2.41	+15.4	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	34.71	-.42	-22.7	
Mandiant Inc (MNDT)	21.79	-.35	+24.2	
MetLife Inc (MET)	66.19	-.84	+5.9	
Micron Tech (MU)	69.94	-5.43	-24.9	
Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	270.02	-4.56	-19.7	
Mullen Automotive (MULN)	1.27	+.04	-75.7	
Novartis AG (NVS)	89.12	-.67	+1.9	
Novavax Inc (NVAX)	44.76	-11.21	-68.7	
Nu Holdings Ltd (NU)	4.50	+.06	-52.0	
Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	187.20	-8.72	-36.4	
Occid Petl (OXY)	70.29	+.99	+142.5	
Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	75.19	-.05	-13.6	
PG&E Corp (PCG)	12.40	-.17	+2.1	
Palantir Technol (PLTR)	8.94	-.36	-50.9	
Pfizer Inc (PFE)	53.20	+.52	-9.9	
Pitney Bowes (PBI)	4.86	-.08	-26.7	
Prudential Fncl (PRU)	103.96	-1.79	-4.0	
Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	68.50	-.04	+2.7	
Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	96.33	+.09	+11.9	
Rogers Corp (ROG)	264.61	+.10	-3.1	
Roblox Corp (RBLX)	30.00	-3.48	-70.9	
SIGA Technologies (SIGA)	11.62	-1.25	+54.5	
SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	64.48	-1.04	-21.3	
Snap Inc A (SNAP)	14.49	-.41	-69.2	
Society Pass Inc (SOPA)	2.32	+.23	-77.7	
SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	6.98	-.44	-55.9	
Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	9.15	-.22	+96.4	
Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	114.53	-1.87	-39.3	
Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	23.53	-.31	-3.2	
StoneCo Ltd (STNE)	11.80	+1.38	-30.0	
Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.38	-.01	-34.8	
Terex Corp (TEX)	36.41	-.22	-17.2	
Tesla Inc (TSLA)	703.55	-71.45	-33.4	
Travelers Cos (TRV)	174.19	-3.87	+11.4	
Turning Point Ther (TPTX)	74.59	+40.43	+56.4	
Uber Technologies (UBER)	24.15	-.59	-42.4	
United Rentals (URI)	301.25	+1.55	-9.3	
UnitedHealth Corp (UNH)	485.61	-6.65	-3.3	
Virtus Invest (VRTS)	192.61	-2.48	-35.2	
Voya Financial (VOYA)	66.20	-1.62	-.2	
Webster Financial (WBS)	50.22	-.18	-10.1	
White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1253.00	+3.22	+23.6	
World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	66.70	-.60	+35.2	
XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	55.26	-.36	-28.6	
Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	18.80	-.35	-17.0	
Yamana Gold Inc (AUY)	5.68	-.19	+34.6	

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OPINION

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Second Amendment is obsolete

Gun rights supporters endlessly quote the Second Amendment's "right to bear arms." Never do they accurately quote the amendment, adopted in 1791: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." It succeeded the 1789 creation of a U.S. military. Framers of our Constitution evolved from European monarchies, where dictators could invade townships. That is the underlying basis for the Second Amendment. In 1791, there were no state militias.

Today, state militias and municipal police are ubiquitous. The logic of touting the Second Amendment's right "to keep and bear arms" by today's firearm enthusiasts is equivalent to renewing the 1690s practice of identifying and hanging witches. In the 231 years since its creation, we have never created a well-regulated state militia from armed citizens; and no gun rights advocate has promoted being part of a state militia. Second Amendment gun ownership should not be a constitutionally protected right in states with militias and police (e.g. all of them). So repeal it.

Roger Emerick, Glastonbury

Ending gun violence should not be difficult

Political clutter and emotion have clouded progress toward a solution to gun violence. The solution lies in common sense. When we view gun violence through a political prism, anti-gun Democrats vs. pro-gun Republicans, we simplify the issue in the wrong way. True simplification centers on shared philosophical sentiment, not polarized tantrum. Let hunters hunt. If you live in an area where a rattlesnake threatens your life, or a coyote your cattle, you can use a rifle for that purpose, too. Let the military have assault weapons. Assault weapons in the hands of ordinary citizens is patently ludicrous.

We abide by the rule of law. Having agreed to abolish eye-for-an-eye justice, we don't take justice into our own hands and shoot to kill when we perceive a threat. We have courts and a justice system. Nor do we need handguns to protect ourselves from our government. We need nuclear weapons to do that. We are unified in our abject disgust and agony over mass shootings, so we have a shared enemy. These shootings and revolting data on gun violence weaken our country. We and our democratic institutions lose moral authority and strength at a time we need our nation's credibility and governance intact for potentially bigger battles. Ending domestic gun violence is simpler than we make it.

Caren Ross, New Hartford

Student wants to feel safe at school

I believe we need to do something about mass shootings. It is tragic to hear about young students and others being killed at school. This affects all parts of every school. We need more security, we need to be more aware, and we need to do something about it.

As a high school student in Hartford County, I should be able to go to school feeling safe, not having to worry about anything terrible. I'm disappointed that many parents have to go through horrible news about their children. One speech that stood out was basketball coach Steve Kerr of the Golden State Warriors. He was angry because he is tired of the sadness, and giving condolences to devastated families that lost amazing young children. He says, "When are we going to do something?" I agree because we really need to do something.

Louinel Clark, Hartford

The writer is a student at Connecticut River Academy

NRA was once good, but that's history

There have been many reasons to vilify the NRA over its blindness and inaction with respect to the increasing number of shootings and number of dead and wounded in this country. There is nothing I can think of that can excuse this, especially for all of the families going through hell trying to accept the unbelievable.

Yet, I was a NRA member in my early teens and was taught shooting and gun safety by respected adults. The difference was that these adults were my parents' age and had lived through the days of WWII and the Korean War and understood all too well what war can do. In that day, the memories of those who survived it were the only records of those horrors. No video games or graphic novels, only those memories that were kept hidden away and were not to be discussed. Most of my generation's parents taught us how to respect a weapon that could do what they could not speak of. That was the NRA that I learned from.

Gale Morganroth, Coventry



The HELPER Act would eliminate down payment requirements and offer 100% financing for first-time homebuyers in front-line hero categories: teachers in grades K-12, police and corrections officers, firefighters, paramedics and EMTs. **GETTY**

OP-ED

First responders, educators deserve affordable housing

By Samuel Royer

From armed battles on the other side of the globe to terror attacks on our own soil, America is no stranger to turbulent times. For over two centuries, we have counted on brave individuals who rise to the occasion to protect our country and our communities, whether overseas or at home. For the past two years, police officers, firefighters, paramedics and teachers have put their personal health on the line so they can serve their communities in a time of uncertainty and economic challenges.

Despite continuing to show up for others every day, these front-line heroes are getting crushed by skyrocketing housing prices, leaving them seemingly out of affordable housing options. America's best are drowning, and we can't leave them behind.

U.S. Sens. Chris Murphy and Richard Blumenthal, both D-Conn., understand the boundless value that first responders and teachers provide to Connecticut's communities. They appreciate the sacrifices they make every day, especially in the face of COVID-19. That's why they have chosen to lead as co-sponsors of the Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator and Responder (HELPER) Act. This common-sense legislation is now supported by more than 75 Republican and Democratic lawmakers and is desperately needed for the hour we are in.

According to the latest Case-Shiller index, year-over-year home prices recently surged by almost 20%, with the median price now at an all-time high. However, police, firefighters, paramedics and teachers in Connecticut have seen average annual wage growth of just 1%-3%, leaving this largely forgotten class of first-time buyers essentially boxed out of the housing market. It's time for these heroes, who have continued to serve during the pandemic, to enjoy access to the American Dream of affordable homeownership. The HELPER Act would help make that idea a reality, creating a viable path for front-line workers to build wealth for themselves and a better future for their families.

Originally introduced in the House by Rep. John Rutherford and followed by Sen. Marco Rubio, both R-Florida, and Sen. Jon Ossoff's, D-Georgia, companion bill in the Senate, this game-changing legislation would eliminate down payment requirements and offer 100% financing for one-time home purchases for buyers who fall within one of the front-line hero categories: police and corrections officers, firefighters, paramedics and EMTs, and preK-12 teachers.

Passage would mean that if a young firefighter or a middle school teacher wants to purchase a moderately priced home, they would receive a loan to finance the entire purchase price.

Another key measure of the HELPER Act is the elimination of monthly mortgage

insurance premium requirements. Under the normal FHA system, most homebuyers who cannot afford a 20% down payment must pay a monthly insurance premium and an upfront cost. A \$200,000 home, for example, would normally require a monthly premium of \$140. Under the HELPER Act, this additional monthly cost is eliminated.

Not only does this legislation save homebuyers significant money, but it would be low risk for the federal government; loss occurs only if the homebuyer defaults into foreclosure. Because first responders and teachers are dedicated public servants employed in stable, often career-lasting jobs, the odds of this happening are minimal.

Sens. Murphy and Blumenthal understand the importance of this moment. As the national director for Heroes First Home Loans and a Marine Corps veteran, I know that our first responders and teachers deserve the same access to affordable housing that our veterans do. These brave first responders and educators deserve to live in the communities in which they serve without the excessive financial burdens imposed by ballooning housing costs.

These home-front heroes have already sacrificed so much, and they have earned their slice of the American Dream. Let's ensure they receive it.

Samuel P. Royer is the national director for Heroes First Home Loans.

OP-ED

Democrats will be in a world of hurt if young voters sit out 2022

By E.J. Dionne Jr.

The Washington Post

President Joe Biden and the Democrats would do well to spend a lot of time over the coming weeks talking with young Americans. It's a matter of survival. If younger voters remain as turned off as they are now, Democrats will get clobbered in November.

Generational differences don't always play a major role in politics, but they do now. Democrats are unusually dependent on support among the young, and if youth turnout in 2022 regresses to levels closer to those in the 2014 midterms, a lot of Democratic incumbents will be looking for new jobs.

The facts are plain. In five key swing states in 2020, Biden needed young voters to prevail. According to exit polls, Biden won voters under 30 years old by 31 points in Arizona, 27 points in Pennsylvania, 24 points in Michigan, 23 points in Wisconsin and 13 points in Georgia.

Young people tend to vote at a lower rate than older people, partly because our electoral system's registration rules make it harder on those who move around (a characteristic of the young) than on those with settled residency. But youth turnout varies enormously.

According to Census Bureau figures, only 19.9% of voters age 18-29 cast ballots in the 2014 midterms, which produced a GOP sweep. But, inspired in part by the anti-Donald Trump movement, under-30 turnout soared to 35.6% in 2018, helping Democrats win control of the House. Turnout was also up substantially among those age 30-44.

The problem for Democrats now is that Biden's numbers among young people are down, and so is enthusiasm for voting. Sean McElwee, executive director of the think

tank Data for Progress, noted in an interview that Biden's ratings among the young were low during the 2020 primaries but rose steadily once he secured the Democratic nomination. Since the election, McElwee said, there's been "a slow but steady erosion" in the president's standing, back toward his more desultory early 2020 numbers.

Young voters are affected by some of the same issues as older voters, including inflation and the persistence of COVID-19. But among the Democratic-leaning young, there is a particular sense of disappointment. "Despite Democratic accomplishments and the Republicans building barriers to additional achievements," Democratic pollster Molly Murphy told me, "younger voters feel they're not getting much from Democrats that's changing their lives."

Murphy also noted that while young Americans are far closer to the Democrats on issues, they do not have the same sense of party loyalty that older voters have, which makes mobilization in purely partisan terms more difficult.

"I'm not worried about defections to Republicans," she said. "Young people are with Democrats on social issues, environmental issues and role-of-government issues. But they have less loyalty to Democrats as a party. They're issue Democrats, not partisan Democrats." And younger progressives "have found other ways to express their activism" beyond electoral politics.

John Della Volpe, director of polling for Harvard's Institute of Politics and the author of "Fight: How Gen Z is Channeling Their Fear and Passion to Save America," said that in his research among young Americans on which elements of their identity motivated their voting choices, Republicans tended to emphasize two: their religious faith and the party itself.

Younger Democrats offered a far more diffuse list, including gender, race, ethnicity, ideology and sexual identity. "And within these categories, there are subcategories," he added. "It's a far more complex basis on which to start a political relationship."

What can Democrats do? Getting more stuff done would be a start. McElwee's priorities would be enacting a reconciliation bill that included substantial investments in climate action, followed by student debt forgiveness at the \$10,000 level that Biden is leaning toward. Della Volpe, who took leave to consult for the Biden campaign in 2020, also supports student debt forgiveness and suggests that addressing the "lack of options young people have in owning a home" would have appeal among both college and non-college young voters.

But in the end, Murphy said, "the glaring reality of what is at stake" if the Republicans win may prove to be the Democrats' strongest card, especially if the Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*. The "idea that Republicans are very extreme," McElwee said, is widely held among the younger voters Democrats need to bring to the polls.

No doubt some older Democratic officeholders will wax impatient with the impatience of the young. After all, Biden and his party have had to deal with a wall of Republican obstruction, the president has made a big dent in judicial appointments, and he has pursued broadly progressive regulatory policies.

But with their party facing a potential catastrophe this fall, Democrats don't have the luxury of lecturing their younger supporters on the need for patience. They will either turn them out, or they'll lose.

E.J. Dionne Jr. writes about politics for The Washington Post.

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GLASTONBURY - Neighborhood Tag & Moving Sale on Lenox Dr. Sat June 4th, 8am-2pm. Lots of great stuff!

LONGMEADOW, MA - Tag Sale, 56 Terry Drive, June 3 & 4, 9am-2pm.

MIDDLETOWN - Lawn & Garden Tools and Equipment Tag Sale- June 4th & 5th, 9 am - noon. 36 Holly Lane, Middletown. Everything must go.

NEW BRITAIN - Multi Family Huge Tag Sale. Many different items & tools. 14 Cadwell Ct. Saturday 6/4 & Sunday 6/5, 9am-3pm.

NEWINGTON - Kiwanis Flea Market Sundays 8a-2p Market Square Lot April 24 - June 26 Vendors \$15 fb.com/NewingtonFleaMarket

PLAINVILLE 35 OVERLOOK DRIVE SATURDAY 6/4 8:00AM - 2:00PM - Bikes, sports equipment, small appliances, home & holiday decor.

ROCKY HILL - Tag Sale, Saturday June 4, 8am-2pm. RH United Methodist Church. 623 Old Main St. Huge Indoor Tag Rummage Bake Sale & Outside space avail + picnic lunch! Bargains Galore

SOUTH WINDSOR - Tag Sale Saturday June 4th from 9am to 4pm. 398 Quarry Brook Dr. South Windsor, CT. Collectibles, household items and books.

VERNON

33 George Drive, June 3rd, 4th and 5th. 8am to 5pm. HUGE Multi-family Tag Sale. Rain or Shine. Includes furniture, pet gates, TONS of designer and stylish clothing for girls, boys through adulthood. Jewelry, books, religious items, gift baskets, electronics, sports, cookware, vintage, crafts and MORE. Free items. You will NOT want to miss this!

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WEST HARTFORD

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June 9th from 3:30pm-7:30pm with Early Bird Entrance fee \$2.00 June 10th from 3:30pm-7:30pm June 11th 9:30am-1:30pm

Sat 11:00am BAG SALE from 10:00am-1:30pm

All proceeds go to Missions supported by Trinity Church. Sale held at 180 Park Avenue - Trinity Church - Windsor, Ct

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Stuff

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4 CONG MTOWN W/2 Handels \$125. 8609068240

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Connecticut

Torrington Board of Education is seeking request for proposal (RFP) for Vogel Windowpane Replacement. The bid packets will be available via emailed request to John Barlow, Director of Facilities on June 6, 2022. A walk-through will be held on June 9, 2022 at 3:00 PM at Vogel Wetmore School, 68 Church Street, Torrington, CT 06790. All instructions for bidding will be enclosed in the email.
6/4, 6/5/2022 7226879

Request for Qualifications Districtwide Facility Study Torrington Public Schools Torrington, CT 06790
Invitation to Submit Qualifications: Interested Architectural Firms must submit one original and 7 copies on or before 11:00 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2022. Email John Barlow at jbarlow@torrington.org for an emailed outline of the submission package requirements. Submission packages will be received at the Business Office of the Torrington Public Schools, made to the attention of: Edward Arum, Interim Business Manager, Torrington Public Schools, 355 Migeon Avenue, Torrington, CT 06790
6/4, 6/5/2022 7226880

INVITATION TO BID

Refuse Removal and Recycling Services

Fusco Management Company, LLC invites contractors to submit quotations for refuse removal and recycling services for the State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch. Bidders holding current certification by the Dept. of Administrative Services, Business Set-Aside Unit as a Small Business, Minority-Owned Business or Woman-Owned Business are encouraged to bid on this contract.

The following location is:

Putnam Superior Courthouse - 155 Church Street, Putnam, CT

Bidders are required to attend a mandatory pre-bid conference and walk-through which will take place at 11:00 AM on Friday, June 17, 2022. Bidders are required to sign in upon arrival and the walk-through will be outside in the parking lot. Bid package will be distributed at the walk-through. Bids must be received no later than 1:00 p.m. on June 21, 2022 via email to smatteis@fusco.com at Fusco Management Company, LLC, 555 Long Wharf Drive, Suite 14, New Haven, CT 06511.
7227222

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LABRADOR RETRIEVERS AKC, Color White, Shots, Vet Chkd, Dewormed, Happy Healthy Babies Ready Now. Males \$1650 Females \$2000 Call For More Info 860-712-5925

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TERRIER MIX small females, \$800, vet checked. 860-680-2955

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

- Bristol**
Raymond M. Depatra
Roberta M. Hartman
Isabelle A. Lafountain
- Cromwell**
Rochelle Asfalg
- East Hartford**
Daniel J. Delmastro
- Enfield**
Joshua G. Berman
- Glastonbury**
Linda M. Ferris
- Manchester**
Diane Mcmillan
- New Britain**
Joshua G. Berman
Salvatore N. Zoccoli
- Newington**
Daniel J. Delmastro
- Other Towns in CT**
Frances E. Barber
Susan L. Dillon
Marcena Morris
Edward A. Zak
- Out of State**
Linda M. Ferris
Joyce Ann Hofer
- South Windsor**
Liesse M. Beloin
- Southington**
Diane Mcmillan
Salvatore N. Zoccoli

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

DePatra, Raymond M.



Raymond M. DePatra, Jr., 93, of Bristol, widower of Dorothy (LaFlamme) DePatra, died on Friday (June 3, 2022) at home. Ray was born in Brockton, MA on May 7, 1929 and was a son of the late Raymond M. DePatra, Sr. and Mary (Harrington) DePatra. A life-long Bristol resident, he was a United States Army veteran of the Korean War. The Private experienced combat action in



Korea and was awarded a Purple Heart medal. After his service he went to work for Superior Electric for 46 years before retiring. He was a member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was a parishioner of St. Francis de Sales Parish attending St. Ann Church. Ray was predeceased by his beloved wife of 66 years, Dorothy, and all his siblings: Josephine Bengier, Gladys Geremia, Geraldine Kinosh, Frank DePatra, Doris Fortier, Walter DePatra, and Leon DePatra. He leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and great-great nieces and nephews, including Julie Wood who helped to care for Ray. Relatives and friends may call at Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol, on Wednesday (June 8, 2022) between 8:30 and 9:30 AM followed by a Mass of Christian Burial celebration at St. Ann Church, 215 West St., Bristol at 10 AM. Burial, with military honors, will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol. Please visit Ray's memorial website at www.FunkFuneralHome.com.



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www.FunkFuneralHome.com

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DelMastro, Daniel J.



Daniel J. DelMastro, 99, of East Hartford, joined his beloved wife, Minnie, in heaven on Thursday, June 2, 2022. Daniel was born in Ivoryton, on September 24, 1922 to Antonio and Lucy (Lombard) DelMastro.

Dan moved to East Hartford at an early age. He attended school in East Hartford and graduated from East Hartford High School, Class of 1939.

After graduation, Dan worked in the office of a small construction company until January 1943, when he was drafted into Military Service. He served until March 1946. His tour of duty included time in the U.S. Army Air Force, and U.S. Army Infantry. His final tour of duty was as a Tech Sgt. In General Patton's Third Army Headquarters, Munich, Germany. Upon discharge from the Army, Dan married the love of his life, Minnie Franco, on May 25, 1946.

Dan worked for several small construction companies as office manager until retiring in December 1984 from The Mather Corp. of Bloomfield. After a few years of retirement, he went to work part-time in the office of Aero-Med, Ltd., owned by his son, Daniel A. DelMastro. Dan was also a Notary Public for over 60 years and a member of the Knights of Columbus, Rev. J.C. Martin Council No. 3901.

Dan and Minnie loved playing cards with friends, dancing and vacationing during the summer in Ogunquit, ME and Lake Winnepesaukee, NH. Most of all, Dan loved spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was a devout Catholic and a parishioner of St. Rose Church for over 70 years.

Dan was predeceased by his parents and his brothers, Augustine, Joseph and Peter DelMastro. He is survived by and will be greatly missed by his son, Daniel A. DelMastro, of Hartford; and his daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and James Stigliano of Newington. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Jeff and Christine Stigliano of Ellington, Todd and Jenna Stigliano of Manchester, Antonio and Sara DelMastro of Rocky Hill, and Lisa and William Wolf of Tolland. He is further survived by his five much loved great-grandsons, Christian, Andrew and Luke Stigliano, Luca DelMastro and Byron Wolf; along with his brother-in-law, Thomas Franco, and sister-in-law, Rita Franco; as well as many nieces, nephews, and very special friends.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Jefferson House in Newington for the wonderful care given to Dan during his time there.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 10 am at St. Rose Church of North American Martyrs Parish, 33 Church Street, East Hartford. Everyone is asked to go directly to the church on Tuesday morning. Burial with military honors will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, (Section P), Burnside Avenue, East Hartford. Relatives and friends may call at the D'Esopo – East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford on Monday, June 6, 2022 from 5-7 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Archdiocese of Hartford, Office of Radio and TV, 15 Peach Orchard Road, Prospect, CT 06712 or Tunnel to Towers, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoeh.com.



D'Esopo
Funeral Chapel

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Dillon, Susan Lewis

A graveside service for Susan Lewis Dillon who passed away on June 5th, 2020, will be held at Eastford Grove Cemetery in Eastford, CT on June 11th at 11:00. Refreshments will be served at the Eastford Congregational Church located at 8 Church Rd. immediately following the service. Please bring your fondest memories of Sue to share with family and friends.

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OBITUARIES

Beloin, Liesse M.Labbe



Liesse M. (Labbe) Beloin, 79, of South Windsor, beloved wife of the late Maurice Beloin died peacefully on Sunday, May 29, 2022, at home, surrounded by her family. Liesse was born in Saint-Joseph-de-Coleraine, Quebec, Canada, on January 9, 1943, daughter of the late Emilien and Angelina (Allaire) Labbe. She grew up in Canada and later moved to Hartford,

CT where she married the love of her life, Maurice Beloin on April 30, 1966. They began their life together in Hartford and moved to South Windsor in 1973. She was an active member of St. Francis of Assisi Church. Liesse was a devoted stay at home mother while her children were young, and she later went to work for CT National Bank. She loved to country line dance and when she was younger paint ceramics. She was a selfless woman who always put others before herself. A kind, caring, loving and devoted mother, grandmother, sister, and friend to many. She will be dearly missed. She leaves her children, Sylvain Beloin and his wife Uyen Phan of North Granby, Daniel Beloin and his wife Bonni of Bethany, Cindy Smith and her husband Reggie of South Windsor, and Jason Beloin and his wife Jessica of Higganum; her grandchildren, Andre Beloin, Ethan Beloin, Rebecca Beloin, Emma Beloin, Logan Smith, Landon Smith, Abigail Beloin, and Hanna Beloin; and her sister, Lise Lavoie and her husband Hermas of Southington. She was predeceased by her brothers, Gaston Labbe, and Laurent Labbe, and her sister, Louise Giroux. Her family will receive friends on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, from 5-7 p.m., at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Rd., South Windsor. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 10:30 a.m., meeting directly at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 673 Ellington Rd., South Windsor. Burial will follow at Wapping Cemetery in South Windsor. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneral-home.com



CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Morris, Marcena



Marcena "Marcie" Morris, 94, of Bolton, CT, passed away peacefully at home on May 25, 2022. Marcie was born in Hartford June 18, 1927, to the late Charles and Theresa (Kopteros) Morris, who had both emigrated to the U.S. from Greece.

After many years of working at Southern New England Telephone Company, Marcie retired and continued to enjoy her passions such as traveling the world. She also loved swimming in her pool, spending time at the beach, snow skiing, dancing and being with family.

Marcie is predeceased by her brothers, Peter and George Morris, and her sister, Kathryn. She is survived by her nephew, Charles Morris (Mary); nieces: Barbara Doyle (Brian), Debra Inman (Mark), Jessie Auer (Kenneth), Christine Doiron (Ronald), Tina Groskritz (Mark), and Theresa Hixon (Kevin); as well as many great nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind many cousins and friends.

The family would like to express their thanks and appreciation to her nurses, caregivers, and especially to Alina and Anna who cared for her like family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

Funeral Services will be held Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 11:00 am, at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 433 Fairfield Ave., Hartford followed by interment at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford. The Dillon-Baxter Funeral Home, 1276 Berlin Turnpike, Wethersfield, CT has charge of arrangements. To extend condolences to the Morris family or to share a memory of Marcie, please visit dillonbaxter.com



Dillon-Baxter
FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Zoccoli, Salvatore "Nick"



Salvatore Nicholas Zoccoli, 84, passed away on May 28, 2022, after a lengthy illness. Born in a small town in the hills of Santa Caterina, prov of CZ, Italy on January 1, 1938, he was best known as "Nick" to family, friends, and associates. Survivors include his devoted wife Louise, sons Stephen (wife Mila), Nick (wife Karen), and daughter Maria Buchta (husband Michael), as well as



six grandchildren who loved their "Papa" – Nicholas, Victoria, Jonathan, Michael, Jimmy, and Anastasia. He is also survived by his sister Assunta Pisani and brothers

Antonio and Monsignor Vincenzo, as well as predeceased by siblings Luigi, Maria Concetta, Giuseppe, Concetta Vittoria Miglio, Giuseppina Ferraro, and Maria Caterina and several nieces and nephews.

He arrived in America at the age of 18 where he quickly learned to speak and read English; by the age of 21, he was an accomplished carpenter and cabinet maker, working for CCSU and himself. He designed and built many spaces and furnishings on the college campus. Some of his other projects included the remodeling of the Mark Twain House, building a Grumman Aircraft wood model for the Lunar Module that eventually landed on the moon, and crafting a full-scale stainless-steel model of the Amtrak train in 1965. In addition, Nick was a veteran of the US Army having served in Dachau, Germany. In his free time, he loved gardening, cooking, playing cards, and always enjoyed a good round of golf. After retirement from the State of CT, he enjoyed traveling and relaxing with his true love Louise, while also fitting in leisure time with his children, grandchildren, and friends. Nick and Louise relocated to Ocala, Florida in 2000 where they were very active in their church and community, as Eucharistic Ministers and volunteering for Meals on Wheels and at a local hospital.

Calling hours are from 4-7pm at Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home of Berlin, 111 Chamberlain Highway, on Friday, June 10th. A funeral mass celebrated by lifelong friend Reverend David Zergie will be held at 10am on Saturday, June 11th at St. Dominic's Church where Nick had contributed his time and talent to the building committee and liturgical furnishings, including the altar. Burial will be at St. Mary's Cemetery immediately following funeral services. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Please share a memory of Nick with the family in the online guestbook at www.ericksonhansenberlin.com

ERICKSON-HANSEN
Berlin

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Berman, Joshua G.



Joshua G. Berman, 34, of New Britain, passed away unexpectedly May 26, 2022 in New Britain. Born in Hartford, he was raised in Rocky Hill and had lived in New Britain for the past four years. He earned an Associates Degree from Manchester Community College and worked at various theaters for the past 10 years. Joshua enjoyed cooking, trips to Disney World, playing his favorite video games, sci-fi, and watching musicals and theater productions.

He is survived by his sister Callista Berman and her fiancé Jonathan Mercier, his step-father, Martin Kapper all of New Britain, two Uncles, Andrew Irish and his wife Carey, George Irish III, an Aunt, Linda Baldwin, and a cousin Daniel Irish. He was predeceased by his mother Stephanie (Irish) Kapper (2020).

Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. Thursday June 9, 2022 at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels 61 South Rd., Enfield. In Lieu of flowers, donations in Joshua's memory may be made to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation at

www.https://give.bcrf.org
To leave online condolences, please visit www.Leetesteevens.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Chyun, Evan



Evan Chyun, of Anchorage, Alaska, formerly of Bristol, Connecticut was taken from this life on Sunday, May, 29th, 4 days short of his 40th birthday, by a tragic automobile accident. Evan was a graduate of Bristol Eastern High School (2000), Princeton University (2004) and the University of Pennsylvania Law School (2008), where he

served on the University of Pennsylvania Law Review. He was an avid student and alumni volunteer. Evan worked as a Public Defender, first at the Defender Association of Pennsylvania and then at the Office of Public Advocacy in Anchorage, before his most recent position at the Alaska Attorney General's Office. He was brilliant, funny, and witty; a fabulous cook and an accomplished musician. Evan loved the outdoors and was happiest there, hence his life in Alaska. Evan cared deeply about social justice. He was principled and righteous; passionate about racial and gender equality and spent his career supporting people ignored and mistreated by our system. Evan strove to make the world a better place. He will be deeply missed by his loving family, parents Deborah and Yong Sung Chyun, sister Elle, brother-in-law Michael Gillman, two nieces, his feline companion OJ, aunts, uncles and cousins, as well as his many devoted friends. Celebrations of his life will take place in Anchorage and Connecticut. Donations can be made to the Alaska Legal Services Corporation or to Princeton University Outdoor Action (denote donation in memory of Evan Chyun for Outdoor Action).

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Ferris, Linda Marie



Linda Marie Ferris, 82, of Glastonbury, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 27th at home. Linda was born on May 12, 1940, in Poughkeepsie, NY to William and Lucille Albrecht. She grew up in Charter Oak Terrace in Hartford, CT where she met Bill, her childhood sweetheart. Linda graduated from Hartford Public High

School, and she and Bill were married and moved to Glastonbury where they raised their three children. While Linda held different administrative positions, she devoted a majority of her time to caring for her family and keeping a beautiful home, and later in life caring for her grandchildren. She showed her love through her delicious cooking and holiday meals, and countless crocheted, cross-stitched, and needlepoint creations for her children and grandchildren. With a love for these hobbies, Linda owned her own retail business in Glastonbury for a short time, called Stitch n' Knit. As a senior in town, Linda frequented the Glastonbury Senior Center where she enjoyed bingo and crocheting for charity. Linda also loved music, crossword puzzles, Scrabble, and spending time with family and friends. She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law William and Patty Ferris Jr. of Berlin; two daughters and sons-in-law Cheryl and Glenn Lagasse of Glastonbury, Elizabeth and Jim Goodman of Sharon, MA; one brother, William Albrecht, Jr., of Florida, her grandchildren Bill, Jim, Ashley, Erin, Glenn, Taryn, husband Greg, and their daughter Eloise, and Olivia and Sam; many nieces and nephews and cousins. Linda is predeceased by her dear husband of 52 years, William Ferris, Sr., beloved sister April Presta, and beloved niece Jennifer Lepore. Funeral services will be private and a memorial service and celebration of Linda's life will be held at a later date.

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Hofer, Joyce Ann



Joyce A. Hofer, 79, of Weeki Wachee, Florida. Beloved wife of 55 years to Donald E. Hofer, passed away at Oak Hill Hospital in the early hours of May 31, 2022. Born January 14, 1943, she was the daughter of the late Earl J. Swan, Jr. and Anne (Krupa) Swan. Joyce spent her mothering years in Meriden, Connecticut, where she was

known for her big personality, great cooking, contagious laughter, and incredibly giving heart. She built many strong life-long friendships and fond memories. She spent her grandparenting years, over two decades in Ludlow, Vermont, working in hospitality at Okemo Mountain Ski resort while fostering an amazing home of memories for her family and friends to escape to on Lake Pauline. Her retirement years were spent in Dunedin, FL near the ocean. She was at her happiest when spending time laughing with her children, grandchildren, and friends, visiting the beach, sitting in the shade seeing and feeling the ocean. Joyce will be forever missed by her beloved husband, Donald; her brother Michael Swan, her two children Renee Phillips of Phoenix, AZ, Brett Hofer of Weeki Wachee, FL and her two grandchildren Ashley Hofer and Brendan Hofer.

A funeral service will be held from 1 pm to 2:30 pm on Saturday, June 11th. A private Facebook Event with a live video broadcast and zoom meeting details will be available. Family and Friends are invited to the Hofer's residence Saturday, June 11th for both the funeral service and the Celebration of Life Event from 3 pm to 8 pm. The burial will be private. Flowers and contributions can be sent to Donald E. Hofer and family, 11296 Warm Wind Way, Weeki Wachee, FL, 34613.

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OBITUARIES

Asfalg, Rochelle "Shelly" (Rubinow)



Rochelle "Shelly" (Rubinow) Asfalg of Cromwell passed on to Heaven on June 1, 2022 after sharing 88 years of kindness, compassion, and love with everyone she met. She held no grudges, sought the best in everyone, and her smile made you believe in goodness, light, and love. She enjoyed trips to Newport, sing-a-longs, dancing, playing scrabble, crossword puzzles, and writing poetry. She was retired from Kmart and the Cromwell Belden Public Library. She was predeceased by her husband of 66 years George Asfalg and her brother Roger "Sonny" Rubinow of Middletown. She is survived by her children Gregory Asfalg of Cromwell, Karen Garofalo of Columbia, Douglas Asfalg of Enfield, Gary Asfalg of Rocky Hill, and Cynthia Parenteau of East Hampton, her sister-in-law Betty Rubinow of Middletown, and her dear cousin Sondra Meltzer of Stamford. She also leaves several nieces and nephews, as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren who affectionately knew her as Nana, Grandma, and Gigi. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, June 14 at 12:00 noon at Cromwell Funeral Home, 506 Main St, Cromwell. Burial will follow in CT States Veterans Cemetery, 317 Bow Lane, Middletown. Friends and family may call Tuesday morning, June 14, from 11:00am to 12:00 noon before the service. Per the family's request, masks are required for all services. In honor of Rochelle's memory and life, please perform random acts of kindness. To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittle-funeralservice.com.
Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

McMillan, Diane (LaPorte)








































Diane L. McMillan (LaPorte), formally of East Hartford CT, passed away peacefully in Asheboro North Carolina on Friday , May 20th 2022. Diane enjoyed crafting, baking, quilting, and sharing those gifts with family and friends. She leaves behind her husband David McMillan; her daughter Lisa Meares and her children Christina and Nicholas; her son Eric Easton, his wife Andrea and son Logan; her step daughter Bonnie Mount, her husband James and their children Christopher, Kyle, and Jason; her step son Rob McMillan, his wife Kimberly and their children Emma, Colton, and Chelsea; as well as her brother Richard LaPorte, and sisters Linda Bouchard and Cheryl Gauvin and their families. She also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, friends, and great grandchildren. Diane touched many lives during her lifetime and will be remembered for her kind and giving heart by all who were blessed to have known her. A memorial service will be held on July 30th at 11:00am at Central Baptist Church in Southington, CT with a light lunch to follow.
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Bradley trial delayed indefinitely

Evidence dispute holding up state senator’s hearing on campaign finance fraud charges

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

State Sen. Dennis A. Bradley’s federal trial on charges that he conspired to cheat the state’s public campaign financing program out of about \$180,000 has been abruptly postponed by a dispute over the late disclosure by federal prosecutors of a key piece of evidence.

The evidence, according to court filings, is a 28-minute video recording that supports the central contention of the government case: that what Bradley claims was a

private client party hosted by his law firm was actually a campaign kick-off and fundraiser for his 2018 state Senate race.

There was no indication late Friday when the trial could resume. Bradley was to be tried this week along with co-defendant Jessica Martinez, the former Bridgeport school board chair who was his campaign treasurer in 2018.

On Thursday, U.S. District Judge Victor Bolden ruled for the defense and said the prosecution can’t use the video recording as evidence after hearing arguments about



Bradley

who was responsible for the late disclosure and how it would leave the defense with no time to prepare.

Within hours, federal prosecutors filed papers saying they would immediately appeal Bolden’s ruling to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. It could take months to resolve the appeal.

Jury selection was underway but not completed at the time of Bolden’s ruling.

The suppressed video could have assisted the government’s case, which turns on a party Bradley threw — at which he

announced he was running for state Senate — at Dolphin’s Cove, a marina and restaurant on the city’s east side on March 15, 2018.

Bradley says the event was a customer appreciation event for clients of his law firm — at which he happened to reveal he was running for office. But federal prosecutors have said they have witnesses and evidence that will show Bradley, Martinez and others in the campaign knew it was a campaign event and that they allegedly altered campaign contribution records and misled state election regulators so that a pricey campaign kickoff wouldn’t block Bradley from obtaining public grants to pay for the rest of the race.

In a new court filing, federal

prosecutors said the disputed video shows that Bradley and Martinez were present at Dolphin’s Cove when campaign volunteers solicited donations while carrying the appropriate State Election Enforcement Commission forms, party guests filled out contribution forms, and the party’s emcee announced over the loudspeaker that contribution forms were available.

Bradley and Martinez are both accused of conspiracy and fraud charges. Martinez is charged additionally with lying to the FBI and to the grand jury that handed down an indictment in the case a year ago.

Turn to Bradley, Page 2

Tensions remain high in Killingly

Months later, battle rages on over school mental health center

By Ginny Monk
CT Mirror

It’s not clear whether having mental health care at his school would have helped Charlie Cournoyer. Maybe a professional could have identified the early signs of his mental illness and intervened.

That remains unknown.

What is perfectly clear to his mother, Judy Cournoyer, is that there’s a need in Killingly for more mental health resources. And if her son’s 2009 death can help other students get help, she wants to find a way to make it happen.

So despite fears that taking a stance would harm her business as a real estate agent, and a genuine disdain for politics, she went to a May 25 meeting of the Killingly Board of Education to tell her story during the time reserved for public comment.

As she spoke, she gently placed a black box containing her son’s ashes at her side.

But she wasn’t the only person with impassioned opinions about school-based mental health care at the meeting. Soon after she spoke, tensions boiled over, and the meeting devolved into a shouting match.

For months, the town has been embroiled in a battle over what would have been a grant-funded mental health clinic available at the high school. The majority-Republican board of education voted down the proposal in March.

Neither side shows signs of budging.

The conversations about the health center have been tinged by political rhetoric — some people characterizing their opponents as an angry mob, others raising concerns about issues of gender identity and abortion. Some board members have wondered if a mental health center would infringe on parents’ rights. A proposal by a Democratic board

Turn to Center, Page 2



Bartender Jose Gonzalez pours a signature cocktail at Tavern in the Square in West Hartford on Friday. JESSICA HILL PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

At Tavern in the Square, something for everyone

West Hartford spot offers classic comfort food — with gluten-free, meatless options

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Tavern in the Square, which opened on May 31 at Corbin’s Corner in West Hartford, is bigger than it looks from the outside. Entering from the front, the restaurant goes deep, with a massive rectangular wraparound bar, an open kitchen, 300 seats and 23 TVs. A spacious side room can be turned into a covered, open-air patio by rolling up the windows.

The portions at Tavern in the Square also are bigger than expected. General Manager Nick Santamaria said “the prices are on the higher end, but you get what you pay for.”

The eatery is a mix of influences. Santamaria calls it “a blend of casual dining and comfort food,” with dishes including burgers, mac-n-

cheese, nachos and steak tips.

It also attracts sports fans; all 23 TVs, 10 of which are at the bar, are tuned to ESPN, NESN and other sports channels. Five high-tops are attached to the bar, like boat slips jutting out of a marina, so people can talk easily with friends and have lots of room for food while still enjoying a bar vibe.

“Last night when the Celtics were playing, the bar was full of Celtics fans,” he said. “We don’t consider ourselves a sports bar, but people do come here to watch sports.”

The restaurant also prides itself on its attention to dietary limitations. No nuts are used in any dish. Many dishes are vegetarian, vegan and gluten free. Dishes that are not vegan or gluten free can be made so by a deletion or substitution

Turn to Tavern, Page 2



The signature quinoa bowl includes roasted cauliflower, winter squash, beets, broccoli, kale, avocado, goat cheese and crispy carrots.

‘Symphony in the Park’ returns after more than a decade

HSO sees free concert as a chance to bring community together

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

After more than a decade the Hartford Symphony Orchestra is once again playing outdoors in Bushnell Park.

The free concert “Symphony in the Park” will take place today at 2 p.m. If there’s bad weather, the concert will move inside.

The HSO has partnered with CTrides to offer free bus transportation via CT Transit and CT Fastrack to the concert.

Although the full HSO hasn’t

performed in the park in many years, other outdoor shows have been a regular part of HSO programming, including the “Summer Splash” and “Talcott Mountain Music” series.

“This concert is an opportunity for the community to come together, building pride in downtown Hartford, celebrating resilience in adapting to the pandemic, and rejoicing in the power of music to bring people together,” said HSO President and CEO Steve Collins in a press release.

What will they be playing Saturday?

The orchestra will be playing works by major Latin-American and Spanish composers, a suite based on “West Side Story” and

all-American standards by John Philip Sousa and Duke Ellington.

The guest performer is violinist Tyler Tan, a Cheshire teen who was one of the co-winners of the 2021 Young Artist Competition.

The full program:

- “America the Beautiful,” which was originally composed by Samuel A. Ward in the late 19th century as “Materna” before patriotic lyrics by Katharine Lee Bates were added to it.
- “Alegría,” a 1996 work by the modernist Puerto Rican composer Roberto Sierra.
- Antonio Dvořák’s “Slavonic Dances, Op. 46, No. 1,” which the HSO performed just last month at one of its Masterworks concerts.
- An orchestral tribute to

Ellington, the big band leader who also composed symphonies.

- The overture to Franz von Suppé’s 1866 operetta “The Light Cavalry.”
- Spanish composer Pablo de Sarasate’s “Zigeunerweisen,” written in 1878 and inspired by Hungarian folk music.
- The symphonic suite derived from Leonard’s Bernstein’s “West Side Story” score, arranged by Jack Mason. The HSO played a different arrangement of “West Side Story” at a concert in November.
- The popular contemporary Mexican classical composition “Danzón No. 2” by Arturo Márquez.
- Sousa’s rousing march “The Stars and Stripes Forever.”

Conducting the concert will be

Adam Boyles, the HSO’s assistant conductor.

At an event Wednesday and on social media, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin mentioned “Symphony in the Park” as a kickoff to a season of outdoor cultural events in Hartford, many of them cross-promoted under the partnership program Summer in the City jointly organized by the Greater Hartford Arts Council and the city of Hartford.

The park concert’s main presenter is The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

More information about Saturday’s concert can be found at hartfordsymphony.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

CONNECTICUT

IN BRIEF

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

Law on disclosing records upheld

A federal appeals court has upheld part of a 2020 Connecticut police accountability law that allows public disclosure of state trooper personnel files and internal investigations.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York on Thursday rejected a challenge by the Connecticut State Police Union, which argued the law violates the 2018-2022 troopers' contract by stripping away its exemptions to state freedom of information laws.

The contract section in question says troopers' personnel files and documents in internal investigations that end with no finding of wrongdoing are not subject to disclosure.

A three-judge panel of the appeals court upheld a lower court ruling against the union.

"Because we conclude that the law the union sought to enjoin was reasonable and necessary to achieve a legitimate public purpose, we identify no error in the District Court's legal or factual conclusions," the panel wrote.

A message seeking comment was left with the state police union on Friday. It wasn't immediately clear if the union plans to take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Proponents of the 2020 law said it answered the calls for reform after the police killings of George Floyd and other Black people. It also created a new state inspector general to investigate police use-of-force cases statewide, limited circumstances in which deadly use of force can be justified, and allowed lawsuits in state courts against officers in certain cases.

— Associated Press

HARTFORD

2 seriously injured in domestic incident

Two people were seriously wounded in a stabbing during a domestic incident early Friday morning, police said.

A woman suffered serious injuries in the stabbing and a man was in critical condition after apparently stabbing himself, according to the Hartford Police Department.

Officers responded about 7:16 a.m. to a home on Webster Street and found the pair suffering from stab wounds. Investigators said they believe the man's wounds were self-inflicted.

Both were taken to an area hospital where the woman's condition had stabilized, but the man remained in critical condition.

The Hartford Police Major Crimes and Crime Scene Divisions were investigating the incident.

— Taylor Hartz

HARTFORD

Arrest in February shooting death

HARTFORD — Police have arrested a man in a shooting that killed a 21-year-old woman and wounded another woman on Feb. 7.

Troyquan Westberry, 25, of Vine Street in Hartford, was arrested and charged with murder, criminal attempt to commit murder, first-degree assault and criminal use of a firearm.

According to police, a 21-year-old was killed and a second woman was critically injured in an early-morning shooting on Feb. 7 in Hartford's West End. The two women were shot when they were in bed in an apartment at 16 Evergreen Ave., Lt. Aaron Boisvert said. The survivor also is in her 20s.

The woman who died was identified by police as Allison McCoy of 16 Evergreen Ave., formerly of Windsor.

At the time, Boisvert said police are investigating the double shooting as a possible act of domestic violence. They do not believe it was a hate crime, he said.

Westberry was held on \$2 million bond.

— Staff report

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

The memorial service Tuesday at the Collinsville Green in Canton was for David Leff. The name was incorrect in photo caption on **Page 1** of Friday's Connecticut section.

Bradley

from Page 1

Defense and prosecution filings in court show that the U.S. Attorney's office knew by January 2020 that Bradley had hired videographers for the Dolphin's Cove event. The videographers told investigators at about the same time that they had about 2 hours of unedited video of the event and a 13-minute, edited clip.

As they are required, the prosecutors told the defense they had taken possession of the edited clip. The prosecution said it intended to present the clip as evidence at trial and provided a copy to Bradley and Martinez. The prosecution did not pursue the 2 hours of raw footage, according to the court filings.

In the court filings, prosecutors said they did not learn of the second, 28-minute clip until they were notified by a witness on May 24, as jury selection was about to

Tavern

from Page 1

of ingredients. In the kitchen — headed by chef Jose Rodriguez, formerly of Max Restaurant Group — vegan and vegetarian foods are not cooked in the same area as foods with meat.

"The owners wanted an upbeat, casual atmosphere, but also with a hyper-focus on the food," Santamaria said. "They wanted to accommodate all people's allergies or food preferences."

All of the small bites, for \$7.50 to \$10, are gluten free, vegan/vegetarian, or both. So are all but two of the starters, which range from \$13 to \$16. The exceptions are the chicken quesadilla and the crab rangoon.

"If something isn't vegan, all you have to do is remove the cheese," Santamaria said. "Our cheeses can be substituted for plant-based cheese."

Small bites include fried pickle chips, guacamole, house-made potato chips, truffle tots, Brussels sprouts, Buffalo cauliflower and "Bang Bang Broccoli," tempura-fried with a chili sauce. Starters include Belgian pretzels, gluten-free smoked wings or tenders, nachos, tater tots and three kinds of pizza: classic, barbecue chicken and pumpkin-goat cheese.

All the salads are gluten free and all are vegan except the steak-avocado, at \$19. Others are Caesar (\$11) and kale-quinoa and chopped Greek (\$14.50).

Sandwiches and burgers are \$15.50 to \$17, and for \$2 extra, any of the meat patties can be substituted for a Beyond burger patty. Varieties are agave lime chicken, Mediterranean chicken, corn-flake-fried chicken, chicken salad croissant, tavern burger, picante burger, blackened bacon and blue cheese burger and a turkey burger.

The mains, from \$16.50 to \$26, are fish and chips, Gen. Tso's chicken, sirloin tips, blackened fish tacos, mac and cheese, cider-glazed salmon and bayou chicken pasta.

Bowls, for \$17.50 to \$24, have quinoa, fried chicken, grilled chicken and salmon.

Santamaria said the restaur-

ant's signature dish is the quinoa bowl, at \$17.50, which has cauliflower, squash, beets, broccoli, kale, avocado, goat cheese and carrots shaved wafer-thin and then flash-fried, to create a bright orange, curly topper on the bowl.

"A ton of people come into the restaurants after work and after the gym. They have the quinoa bowl, or the Bang Bang broccoli or buffalo cauliflower, or a salad. They don't want to ruin everything they just did for their health," said Santamaria.

Tavern in the Square got its start in 2004 in Central Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, owned by Stephen DeSousa, Joey Arcari and Renato Valentin. It expanded to seven more Massachusetts locations. Later it expanded into Rhode Island. West Hartford's location is Connecticut's first. Santamaria said its success will determine whether other locations open here.

Santamaria has worked at the restaurant group since 2014, starting as a server-bartender and most recently as general manager of the location in Boston's North Station. A native of Old Saybrook, he relocated back to his home state to

Center

from Page 1

member to discuss the health center was voted down.

Meanwhile, the state has launched an investigation into whether the board is violating the educational interests of the state. State officials are reviewing information from attorneys, education commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker said this week during a state board meeting.

The state's decision might eventually have an impact on other school districts involved in similar debates. It is coming at a time when officials and advocates say there's a nationwide mental health crisis, and conservative parents and officials are pushing back against school-based mental health supports such as social emotional learning.

But on May 25, Killingly residents were focused on their own town.

Charlie Cournoyer's story: Judy Cournoyer spoke to the board before the meeting soured.

Cournoyer said in an interview after the meeting that she started noticing small changes in her son during his junior year of high school. Those small issues built into full-on episodes, and he was eventually diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder.

She recalls the night of his death at the age of 29 in excruciating detail. He had been driving around in the midst of an episode, trying to find his way back home. They had been on the phone off and on, and eventually she and her husband went to look for him.

The car crash was caused by his exhaustion, his parents later

begin. The prosecutors said in the filing that they provided a copy of the new clip to the defense on May 25 and listed the second clip among their trial exhibits.

Bradley and Martinez claimed in their filings that prosecutors should have obtained or at least been aware of the existence of a second clip in 2020, when they were notified that the videographers had two hours of unedited footage. They said the late disclosure was a device intended to leave the defense unprepared on the eve of trial.

Martinez's public defender Daniel Erwin complained in a court filing that the government "ambushed" her.

"It haphazardly discloses evidence absent any regard for the defendant's rights and declines the courtesy of sharing its day-to-day witnesses with defense counsel," Erwin said. "Far from bringing sunlight's disinfecting powers to municipal politics, the government operates as a model



The blackened bacon and blue burger comes with Cajun spice, bacon, ale-braised onions and blue cheese at Tavern in the Square in West Hartford. **JESSICA HILL PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

of opacity and ambush. Now it takes a breathtaking step to avoid accountability for its own indifference to the law's requirement of transparency."

Records on file with the court and with state elections regulators show that, after the Dolphin's Cove event, Bradley qualified for an \$84,140 state campaign grant, which he used to win a Democratic primary in August 2018 in a district that includes parts of Bridgeport and Stratford. His application for another \$95,710 taxpayer financed campaign grant to run in the general election was denied by the State Elections Enforcement Commission, which had begun an investigation based on a "Citizen's Complaint" about the Dolphin's Cove event.

Even without the second grant, Bradley bested his Republican opponent, winning 87% of the general election vote. The U.S. Attorney's office is charging Bradley and Martinez in connection with both grants, arguing both

ments are getting personal.

"People are getting angrier because they have poured their hearts out, they've presented facts and data ... at the end of the day, it's just a big fat 'no' with no explanation," said Christine Rosati Randall, an advocate for the school-based health center.

That was highlighted last Wednesday during a heated exchange between a few members of the public and Kelly Martin, the board of education's recently appointed vice chair. Martin initially voted in favor of the health center but has since voted against proposals to bring the issue back up.

"People are getting angrier because they have poured their hearts out, they've presented facts and data ... at the end of the day, it's just a big fat 'no' with no explanation."

— Christine Rosati Randall, advocate for the school-based health center

"You lose a son, what can you do?" she said. "You just try to do something good out of it."

Her presence at the May board meeting was a piece of that doing "something good," but although she's dedicated to the cause, she left the building feeling like she hadn't been heard by board members.

"I just felt like it fell on deaf ears," Cournoyer said of her testimony. "They've already made up their minds."

Getting personal: Cournoyer's feelings echoed the sentiments of several others who have protested and spoken at public meetings in favor of the health center: the town is at a stalemate. Tensions are running high, and some of the argu-

were part of the same conspiracy to defraud the state campaign financing program, known as the Citizen Election Program.

The indictment in the case suggests that Bradley and his campaign staff were allegedly knowingly breaking campaign finance laws within weeks of the Dolphin's Cove event. In May 2018, he sent what apparently was intended to be an inspiring text message to Martinez and other staffers, promising that "through our continued faithfulness the brightest day will come."

A staffer replied: "Don't worry Dennis if you go to jail you are a lot cuter than (another convicted Bridgeport politician) — u will be ok and I'll make sure ur commissary always has enough so you can make toilet wine and mufungo." [Mufungo is slang for a dish made by prisoners using chips, ramen and rice.]

Federal authorities would not identify the politician whose name was deleted from the indictment.



The strawberry rosé sangria, the peach mash and the "Empress" are among signature drinks at Tavern in the Square in West Hartford.

open the West Hartford store.

The bar has a variety of drafts, including local craft brews from Hanging Hills of Hartford, Two Roads of Stratford, Back East of Bloomfield, Broken Symmetry of Bethel, Counter Weight of Cheshire, New England of Woodbridge and Thimble Island of Branford.

Tavern in the Square, at 1393

New Britain Ave., is open Sunday to Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. (kitchen closes at 10 p.m.) and Thursday to Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to midnight (kitchen closes at 11 p.m.). The covered patio is available as a function room. Find more info at taverninthesquare.com.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

stop."

At the end of the public comment period, Martin, the board's vice chair, said Grandelski had been cruel.

"I happen to know Ms. Murphy personally, and I know on many occasions she has tried to have nice conversations with you," Martin said to Grandelski. "She always agrees with both sides. She wants to be on both sides. And you've been nothing but cruel to her. And I just want to let you know. Don't look at me like that, you know as well as I do."

The meeting then erupted into chaos, with several members of the audience yelling. Grandelski's husband defended his wife and Martin raised her voice at Grandelski, while chair Norm Ferron banged the gavel several times, telling people to sit down.

Martin apologized to fellow board members later in the meeting for losing her temper.

In an interview later, Grandelski said she thought it was inappropriate that a member of the board would personally call out a member of the public and said Murphy's comments were insulting to therapists.

"When she was talking about all the counselors that have sexually molested students, I just thought that was pretty outrageous," Grandelski said. "To me, it was just sort of insinuating that people at Killingly High School are going to do that to the children there."

Reached by email, Murphy declined to comment for this story.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, help is available by calling 2-1-1 or 1-800-467-3135.

Ginny Monk is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror.

CONNECTICUT

Infowars agrees to end bankruptcy case

Filing pulled after deal reached with families of Sandy Hook victims

Associated Press

Alex Jones’ Infowars and two of his other companies agreed to end their bankruptcy protection case in Texas, according to court documents filed Wednesday and Thursday, weeks after reaching a deal with Sandy Hook shooting victims’ families suing the conspiracy theorist for calling the massacre a hoax.

The families and the local U.S. trustee’s office — a Justice Department agency that oversees bankruptcy cases — had questioned the legitimacy of the bankruptcy

filing and sought to throw out the case.

Lawyers for the families called the filing a delaying tactic that put their defamation lawsuits against Jones on hold — a claim his lawyers denied.

Infowars, Prison Planet TV and IW Health consented to dismissing the bankruptcy case after the Sandy Hook families agreed to drop the companies from their defamation lawsuits in Texas and Connecticut. Those lawsuits will continue against Jones himself and his largest moneymaking company, Free Speech Systems.

Trials are pending to determine how much Jones should pay the families, after judges in both



states found him liable for damages to the families.

Jones, Infowars and others were sued by the families of eight of the victims and an FBI agent who responded to the school. The families said they have been subjected to harassment and death threats from Jones’ followers because of the hoax conspiracy. Jones has since said he believes the shooting did occur.

The families’ lawyers also have accused Jones of trying to hide millions of dollars in assets — also denied by Jones and called “ridiculous” by one of his lawyers. Infowars and the other two companies filed for bankruptcy protection only days before

the first trial on damages was expected to begin in Texas. Jones is based in Austin, Texas.

In a court document filed Thursday, an attorney for Infowars said the three companies still have \$140,000 in debts remaining that qualify for bankruptcy protection and are not related to the Sandy Hook lawsuits. The deal to end the bankruptcy case awaits a judge’s approval.

“The facts are that these chapter 11 cases were filed in good faith and would still serve a valid bankruptcy purpose,” Infowars lawyer Kyung Lee wrote in the document. “Nonetheless, the Debtors ... recognize that the dismissal is in the best interests of the Debtors and their estates because the U.S.

Trustee continued opposition to the cases.”

When Infowars filed for bankruptcy protection in April, it listed assets of \$50,000 or less and liabilities of \$1 million to \$10 million, with creditors including relatives of some of the 20 children and six educators killed in the 2012 school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut.

Christopher Mattei, a lawyer for the Sandy Hook families in Connecticut, said in a statement that the deal to end the bankruptcy “proves what we’ve said from the beginning: this bankruptcy was a sham attempt by Alex Jones to pit families against one another and avoid his reckoning with a jury. It didn’t work. We look forward to trial.”

They’re taking the climate fight to new heights

Church officials, a modern dance troupe, artists and musicians come together to bring awareness

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

Give Earth a dance.

Two churches, a local modern dance troupe and an array of guest artists and speakers have come together to create a weeklong, environment-themed performance event, “Body And Land: Exhibition For Eco-Justice.”

The event, which begins Saturday, was over a year in the making and is anchored by dance performances from the Middletown-based Ekklesias Contemporary Ballet and an immersive visual art experience designed by Stephen Proctor. It is scored to music by Vivaldi and accented by different talks or readings nightly throughout the nine-performance run at Hartford’s Christ Church Cathedral at 45 Church St., recently renovated to be more of a performance-friendly space.

“It’s kind of amazing. It’s hard to put into words,” says Rev. Mary Barnett of Church of the Holy Trinity in Middletown, who co-organized “Body and Land” with the Very Rev. Migueлина Howell and Ekklesia artistic director Elisa Schroth. Barnett, who had her own experimental dance troupe in the New Haven area in the 1980s and ’90s, applied for the \$22,000 Creation Care national grant from the Episcopal Church that made “Body and Land” possible.

Barnett notes that the Church

of the Holy Trinity has strongly embraced environmental issues, including a promise to “take care of creation” that has been added to baptismal ceremonies. The church also provides the Ekklesia troupe with a studio space, so they were the first artists enlisted for the project. Schroth brought the environmental visual artist Proctor on board.

Ekklesia’s dance piece, performed every day of the run except Tuesday, fills 15 minutes of each hourlong performance. Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons” is utilized to “look at climate change through a seasonal lens,” Barnett says. There are also contributions by composer Scott Simonelli and poet Kwamena Blankson.

The entire week, Barnett says, uses the arts, especially dance, “to help raise awareness of a serious topic in a way that can move people. This is about climate change as it affects our bodies, as well as bodies of land. We’re pulling together every art medium to really [bring] awareness and also celebrate the environment.”

Among the events unique to each performance:

Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.: Theologian Ellen Davis.
June 6 at 7 p.m.: A monologue presented by Hartford Stage, directed by Zoë Golub-Sass.
June 7 at 7 p.m.: Music from Cuatro Puntos and guest speaker Sam Fuller.



Ekklesia Contemporary Ballet dancers, with Jacob Schup and Richelle Stevenson aloft in the foreground, work on “Body and Land,” a multimedia, multidisciplinary piece happening June 4-12 at Christ Church Cathedral.
MAUREEN LEDERMAN/COURTESY

June 8 at 7 p.m.: A “Dialogue on Intersection of Social/Racial Justice and Creation Care” with Canon Ranjit Mathews and the ECCT Racial, Justice, Healing and Reconciliation Network.
June 9 at 7 p.m.: Cathedral music and poetry by Dr. Lindsay Rockwell.

The June 10 performance at 7 p.m. and June 11 student matinee at 2 and 6 p.m. performance have no extra elements announced

besides the dance and art.

On June 12 at 10 a.m., there’s a closing Eucharist ceremony with the Barnett and the Howell as celebrants as well as guest preacher Rev. Stephanie Johnson.

Admission is free to all the performances. For more information and to register for free tickets, go to cccathedral.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnett@courant.com.

Arrest made in memorial shootout

Feds: At least 9 caught on video drawing guns at gathering in April

Staff report

A Hartford man is charged with firearm offense stemming from April shootout in the city, according to federal authorities.

Kejuan Williams, 29, of Hartford, is charged with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in New Haven, according to federal authorities.

The indictment was returned on May 24; Williams has been in custody since his federal arrest on May 12.

Federal authorities, citing court documents, said that, on April 18, after “an unidentified shooter opened fire at individuals who were standing in a parking lot outside of a memorial gathering in Hartford, surveillance cameras at the location recorded at least nine individuals drawing firearms, and some of them returned fire.”

Authorities said Shot Spotter technology recorded about “50 shots fired within approximately 90 seconds in and around the location, and law enforcement recovered at least 31 shell casings from the scene.”

“Williams was present at the memorial gathering and was recorded on video brandishing a handgun and firing approximately eight times at the fleeing assailant” and then fled the scene, authorities said in a statement.

Hartford police found Williams’ car near a restaurant on Westland Street on April 21, and Williams “was found inside the restaurant crouching behind a counter,” the statement said. Officers apprehended Williams and allegedly seized a loaded Taurus G2C 9mm handgun on the ground where Williams had been crouching.

Authorities said an analysis of the shell casing fired from the seized handgun revealed it matched shell casings recovered from the shooting on April 18.

“This is another great example of technology, forensics and great police work coming together to take dangerous persons off the street and make our community safer,” Hartford Police Chief Thody said in the statement. “We appreciate our federal partners for all that they do.”

If convicted, Williams faces up to 10 years in prison.

Another individual alleged to be involved in the April 18 shooting incident is detained in federal custody on a federal supervised release violation, authorities said. “It is alleged that surveillance video shows (the suspect) brandishing a handgun and holding a young child while facing oncoming gunfire.”

U.S. Attorney Vanessa Avery, said, “Gunfire erupting at a memorial service attended by families and young children cannot be tolerated in any community.”

“The reckless shooting event on April 18 may cause lasting trauma to all who witnessed it. Based on the number of shots fired, it is fortunate that no one lost their life and only one individual was injured,” Avery said in the statement. “The U.S. Attorney’s Office and our law enforcement partners are committed to using the full weight of federal law to help bring an end to this senseless violence.”

The ongoing investigation is being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Northern Connecticut Gang Task Force; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; and the Hartford Police Department.

Contractor allegedly bilked dozens in 5 states

Authorities say man cheated customers out of more than \$400K

Associated Press

PITTSFIELD, Mass. — A contractor who according to authorities bilked dozens of customers in five states — including a church and two volunteer fire departments — out of a total of more than \$400,000, has been indicted on 48 charges, prosecutors said.

Fred Senter, 40, of Pittsfield, who owned Northern Steel Build-

ing and Structure LLC, took down payments for more than 40 projects to build steel structures, yet never completed the work and eventually stopped communicating with his clients, according to a statement Thursday from the Berkshire district attorney’s office.

Senter cheated customers from February 2020 through September in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania and even continued to collect deposits for months after he dissolved the business, prosecutors said.

He was held on \$25,000 bail at his arraignment Thursday in Berk-

shire Superior Court.

“My client maintains his innocence,” Senter’s attorney, Joanna Arkema, said in a statement Friday. “Since it is very early in the case, we are going to refrain from commenting further at this time.”

Most of his customers were private citizens, but he also defrauded the volunteer fire department in Richmond, Massachusetts, authorities said.

“These indictments demonstrate my office and law enforcement’s commitment to holding those who take advantage of others accountable,” District Attorney Andrea Harrington said in a state-

ment.

He signed a contract with the department in February 2020 and accepted nearly \$53,000 for a new steel building, provided the blueprints and trusses for the project, but never completed the work and never refunded the deposit, prosecutors said.

The charges include multiple larceny counts as well as being a common and notorious thief.

Some of Senter’s clients told investigators that he blamed delays on material and labor shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, before cutting off communications entirely.

Legal officer for U of Maine resigns after Malloy uproar

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Maine — The University of Maine System’s chief legal officer cited stress as a reason for resigning this week following turmoil over a presidential job search that led to faculty votes of no confidence in the chancellor.

Jim Thelen, who served as vice chancellor for strategic initiatives and chief legal officer, sent a notice of his resignation to colleagues on Wednesday, the Kennebec Journal reported.

He wrote that his stress had become “unbearably intense and acute of late” and that his decision was made in consultation with a doctor.

“I believe it is necessary that I step down as soon as possible to maintain and preserve my health and wellbeing,” he wrote.

The announcement followed an

uproar that began over Chancellor Dannel Malloy’s failure to notify a search committee that the candidate selected to serve as president of the University of Maine at Augusta had received no-confidence votes in his previous job.

That led three faculty senates to issue their own votes of no confidence in Malloy. The contract for Malloy, a former governor of Connecticut, is due to expire at month’s end, and trustees have yet to renew it.

Thelen was by Malloy’s side when the chancellor addressed faculty on the Augusta campus in a tense meeting.

Despite that, a University of Maine System spokesperson said the resignation was “not related to the University of Maine at Augusta presidential search or the actions taken by faculty since then.”

Channel 3 Kids Camp in Andover closes for season

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

The Channel 3 Kids Camp in Andover will be closed this summer following the sudden departure of the camp’s former executive director David Meizels.

The decision to close came just ahead of the start of the summer activities and was a direct result of Meizel’s “unavoidable and immediate departure,” according to a letter from camp leaders released this week that announced the closure.

“With this leadership departure, we would not be able to deliver the high level of quality to which families have become accustomed,” the camp said in a statement.

The reason for Meizel’s

departure did not involve any campers, the statement said, and the camp’s former executive director Denise Hornbecker, who had retired, has returned as the camp’s interim executive director.

In a letter signed by Hornbecker and Samuel Broomer, chairman of the camp’s board, the camp said it will work with families to quickly refund deposits and help them find alternative summer camp arrangements.

Broomer and Hornbecker said they plan to use the summer off as an “active pause” and “an opportunity to reorganize our leadership and rework our camp offerings.”

They plan to reopen by the summer 2023 season, or maybe this fall.

LIVING

CELEBRITIES

Lopez to be honored at MTV awards

From news services

Jennifer Lopez will be honored for her film and television achievements at the MTV Movie & TV Awards.

The network announced Friday that Lopez will receive the Generation Award on Sunday in California. The award celebrates actors whose diverse contributions in both film and television have turned them into household names.

“Jennifer embodies everything about the Generation Award,” executive producers Wendy Plaut and Vanessa White-Wolf said in a statement. “As a woman who does it all — in the acting, singing, dancing, producing, fashion and beauty realms — Jennifer Lopez is a timeless icon who’s made a lasting impact on film, TV, music and culture.”

Lopez’s first breakthrough came as a dancer on the 1990s sketch comedy series “In Living Color.” She pursued an acting career and landed a leading role in “Selena” in 1997. She would go on to appear in such films including “Anaconda,” “The Wedding Planner,” “Hustlers” and her latest, “Marry Me.”

“Spider-Man: No Way Home” enters the awards show as the leading nominee with seven nominations. HBO’s “Euphoria” earned six nods, and “The Batman” followed with four nominations. Vanessa Hudgens will host the awards show.

Starr receives honorary degree: Ringo Starr finally made it to Boston on Thursday to receive his honorary degree from the Berklee College of Music. The school originally announced that the Beatles drummer would receive a doctorate in music at commencement ceremonies in May, but Starr



Jennifer Lopez, seen March 22, will receive the Generation Award at Sunday’s show. **FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY**

was unable to attend then and instead addressed the graduating class in a recorded statement.

But with Ringo Starr and his All Starr Band in town for a show, the school held a special ceremony Thursday to honor his lifelong contributions to the music scene that featured performances of Starr’s hit songs, arranged and performed by Berklee students.

Starr, 81, told the story of how he picked up drumming when he was 13 and very ill and someone brought some percussion instruments to the hospital to keep him busy. He was hooked.

“I just wanted to be a drummer from that moment on,” he said at Thursday’s ceremony. “It was my big dream, and it’s still unfolding.”

CMA Fest bans Confederate flag imagery: The CMA Fest is prohibiting any Confederate flag imagery at its four-day festival, in Nashville, Tennessee, following similar bans at other country music festivals. In a statement, the Country Music Association said the decision to enact the policy this year was based on the personal safety of fans and to prevent discrimination. After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the festival kicks off June 9.

Country star Maren Morris has urged other country singers to call on festivals and shows to ban the flag.

June 4 birthdays: Actor Bruce Dern is 86. Singer Michelle Phillips is 78. Actor Parker Stevenson is 70. Actor Keith David is 66. Singer El DeBarge is 61. Actor Julie White is 61. Actor Scott Wolf is 54. Comedian Horatio Sanz is 53. Actor Noah Wyle is 51. Actor Russell Brand is 47. Actor Angelina Jolie is 47. Actor Theo Rossi is 47.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Friend afraid of reaction to severing ties

Dear Amy: “Mary” and I were acquaintances in college. We didn’t talk for years after graduating but would see each other sometimes at bars and say hello.

In 2020, she decided that she wanted to develop a friendship with me. I quickly realized how unstable she is. She goes through cycles of sleeping with new people, posting them all over social media, the relationship ends, then she starts up with someone new. She has also behaved unethically in her profession.

Almost every weekend now, Mary asks me to go out drinking. I’ve been making up excuses because I don’t feel comfortable telling her that I find her actions problematic.

In between texts asking to hang out, she would tell me how good of a friend I am. Amy, I would see this person once every few months.

Last weekend, I finally left her text as having been “read” but I haven’t answered. Just now, I just got a text from her telling me she misses me.

I’m scared to tell her that I don’t want to be her friend. I don’t know how she’d react.

Should I continue not to respond to her?

— *No Chaos*

Dear No Chaos: If you are genuinely afraid of “Mary’s” reaction to any statement from you, then yes — I’d suggest a continued light ghosting. She will text you, you will read her texts, but you won’t respond unless you feel the need to answer a question. (For instance, if she asks

you to meet her at a bar at a certain time, you should respond: “Sorry — I can’t make it. Hope you have a good time.”)

If things come to a head and you feel boxed into a corner, then keep your statement simple: “I don’t party like I used to, but I’m sure I’ll see you around town at some point. Take good care of yourself.”

Dear Amy: I recently visited my mother-in-law in her home. It was a nice and cordial visit except that I think she called me a liar without so much as saying those words.

I was in her kitchen cooking a meal when she stated: “Do you know how the silverware got mixed up in the drawers? Not that I care, but I was just wondering.”

I told her: “No, I’m not aware of how that happened.”

Then she said, “Well, if you didn’t do it, I wonder who did? I know that ‘Susan’ (her daughter who had visited the previous month) didn’t do it.”

I just let the subject drop, but then started thinking: Did she just accuse me of lying?

Am I making too much of this? I don’t want to bring this matter up with my husband (her son), but it is certainly bothering me.

— *Mixed-up Drawer in Michigan*

Dear Mixed-up: You may have heard of the “non-denial denial,” brought into popular culture during the Watergate era. This refers to denying an accusation without actually or specifically denying it: (“That doesn’t sound like something I would do ...”)

Your mother-in-law’s comment falls into a classic mother-in-law category: the non-accusation accusation.

Of course this bothers you! And yes, you should do your best to drop it.

Dear Amy: May I weigh in on the question from “Bay Area Stepmom Cook” the woman who refused to leave onions out of food, even though her son-in-law had an aversion to onions?

I am a retired professional chef. Cooking is the art of making food delicious to other people. A true artist (and mature human being) rises to meet challenges with zest.

Many people have potentially lethal allergies, religious taboos, health concerns or simple aversions and preferences that should be respected.

The artist in the kitchen will encounter ingredient changes with the joy of triumphing via creativity.

There is a proverb, “A guest is the jewel on the cushion of hospitality.”

It is also an unappetizing idea to start an ego war in your family. Bon appetit!

— *Mary Birnbaum, Boston*

Dear Mary: This question continues to receive a robust (zestful?) response.

This speaks to the importance all of us attach not only to food and nutrition, but to notions of hospitality and generosity.

Thank you so much for your wise response.

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MUSIC REVIEWS

Wilco takes on flawed America

Wilco goes country as only it can on “Cruel Country,” an immensely rich 21-track, roughly 80-minute deep dive into America that is a raw and engaging take on our tumultuous times.

For fans of Wilco, “Cruel Country” feels in some ways like an extension of the rock band’s “Mermaid Avenue” collection with Billy Bragg that were based on lyrics of Woody Guthrie. But “Cruel Country,” a reference more to the subject matter than the musical style, is very much Wilco’s take on America as it currently exists. “I love my country stupid and cruel/ red, white and blue,” lead singer and songwriter Jeff Tweedy sings on the title track.

While death hangs heavy over “Cruel Country,” the record offers solace in music and community. “All you have to do is sing in the choir with me,” Tweedy sings in as much an invitation as an aspiration.

It’s fitting that the tracks were recorded live by the band playing together at Wilco’s loft in Chicago, with minimal overdubs. That gives “Cruel Country” a raw, real feel that’s befitting the songs. Tweedy described the method as “messy. Like democracy.”

“Country Song Upside-Down” perhaps comes closest to stating Wilco’s thesis for “Cruel Country.”

“I found a song upside-down,” Tweedy sings. “A country song/ Without a doubt/ Dying sky and water/ Rainbow/ Flickering out.”

As Tweedy writes in the liner notes, “Cruel Country” is an attempt to “challenge our affections for things that are flawed.”

“Cruel Country” isn’t all cruel, and it isn’t all country music, either. But it’s likely to stand the test of time. — *Scott Bauer, Associated Press*



‘Cruel Country’
Wilco (dBpm Records)

Lzzy Hale, the lead singer and guitarist for the heavy metal band Halestorm, is that rare breed of wild child whose path you cross at your own peril, and her aggressiveness soaks through her music.

The band’s new album, “Back From the Dead,” is not for the faint of heart, or anyone with even a trace of a headache: it’s a full-on sonic assault of screams, wailing guitars, pounding drums and booming bass.

And yet Hale manages to pull it off with a deft songwriting touch and a surprising sense of melody that belies the bombast.

The title track begins with a roar (as many of Hale’s songs do). She’s got a great scream, and she’s not afraid to use it, multiple times, on most songs.

Yet she actually has a beautiful singing voice that can tend to get overlooked amid the shrieks. The ballads “Terrible Things” and “Raise Your Horns” feature her tender, sultry vocals that are 180 degrees from many of her other vocals, particularly those on “Wicked Ways.”

“The Steeple” is an infectious anthem/ode to the fans, a made-for-the-concert-hall singalong with lines like “This is my church, and these are my people.”

“Back From the Dead” will definitely be in the running for the best hard rock/metal album of the year. — *Wayne Parry, Associated Press*



‘Back From the Dead’
Halestorm (Atlantic)

British singer Ella Mai is back with even more R&B bridges in her second album, “Heart on My Sleeve.” While this album radiates Mai’s finger-snapping tracks and smooth melodies similar to her debut, it’s also more passionate and sung by someone who’s a little older and wiser. Mai’s 2018 debut album went double platinum and her hit single “Boo’d Up” went on to win a Grammy for best R&B song.

Mai has never shied away from love songs but this sophomore album shows more sides of Mai. The tracks highlight all the sides to falling in love, the healthy sides and even the toxic relationships. “Leave U Alone” shows the uncontrollable nature of being in love, while “Hide” is a ballad finding vulnerability.

Her sound stays true to R&B but also brings in fun pop vibes. “Fallen Angel” is a true lovestruck romantic track that stood out. “DMFU” is a lush R&B track about the risk of romance and that it might go sour. Her track “Feels Like” shows that she takes power and control back in a relationship. The album also features collaborations with Latto, Lucky Daye and Roddy Ricch.

“Heart on My Sleeve” proves that there’s still room for love songs and romance in R&B. — *Karena Phan, Associated Press*

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Your social groups are highlighted today, taking a closer look at the quality of your bonds. It’s a good time to make sure that you are on the same page. If you decide you’ve outgrown some connections, it might be best to seek out a different community.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Your career might be taking up a good deal of time as you attempt to make a name for yourself, reminding you that it’s important to ensure the pillars upon which you’ve built your success are as firm as they appear. Take this time to solidify your foundations and build into the future.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Today the horizon could feel closer than it has in some time, like your limitations are becoming a bit more obvious. This phase is asking you to parse through any new experiences you’ve encountered, allowing you to discover what truly works for you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): There’s a rather serious, inward-focused tone to the day, Cancer, forcing you to examine your closest bonds with the most important people in your life. You might find that some bonds aren’t as strong as you suspected. Be careful about biting off more than you can chew.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your partnerships are taking center stage for an awkward performance, making it imperative that you choose wisely when it comes to forming any duos, be they romantic, professional or otherwise. It’s important to get serious about how you connect with loved ones, because your bonds will be tested.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Things might be rather touch-and-go today, setting up a few roadblocks that will unfold over the next few months as the cosmos asks you to improve the way you go about your problems. While this can be difficult, don’t forget that you’re equipped to handle the issues coming your way.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): How you feel emotions and accept care are about to become matters of serious investigation. This is also a creative sector of, so any artistic projects you’ve been working on could demand attention. A labor of love could turn into something rewarding.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The way you operate under your own roof is likely going through a period of adjustment. This could see you ironing out the kinks in a relationship with a roommate or family member, or perhaps home renovations. Either way, now is the moment to solidify your home base.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It’s more important than ever to make sure that your words are matching your actions. Take today to set a goal of speaking your truth and nothing else. That said, remember that your truth might be totally different than someone else’s. It’s in the space between that you can find a compromise.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Money matters are demanding your attention, but this isn’t about your bank balance. It’s time to learn how to best handle your money and make sure that you truly understand the value of what you’ve got. View your wealth as part of the big picture — doing so should help you garner future success.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Uncovering your self-worth isn’t an overnight process. You’re deep in a phase of better understanding yourself and how you present yourself to the world. You might notice you feel a bit reserved, but this is a mandated moment of introspection.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): A tonal shift may be occurring off in the wings where you can’t quite glimpse it. Get ready for a major cleaning-out phase that is all about clearing your plate of previous detritus! Some baggage is easier to release than others, so don’t expect change overnight.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On June 4, 1812, the U.S. House of Representatives approved, 79-49, a declaration of war against Britain.

In 1919, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution,

which said that the right to vote could not be denied or abridged based on gender.

In 1939, the German ocean liner MS St. Louis, carrying more than 900 Jewish refugees from Germany, was turned away from the Florida coast by the U.S.

In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway began, resulting in a decisive American victory against

Japan and marking the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

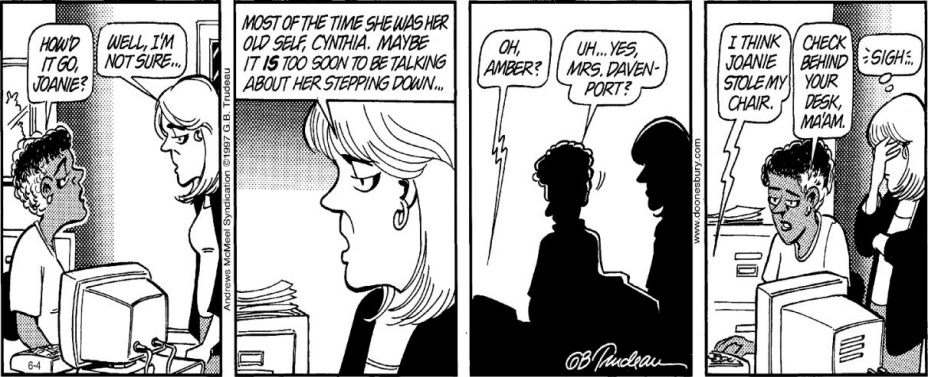
In 1967, “Mission: Impossible” won outstanding dramatic series at the 19th Primetime Emmy Awards.

In 2020, in the first of a series of memorials, celebrities and political leaders gathered in front of George Floyd’s casket in Minneapolis.

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



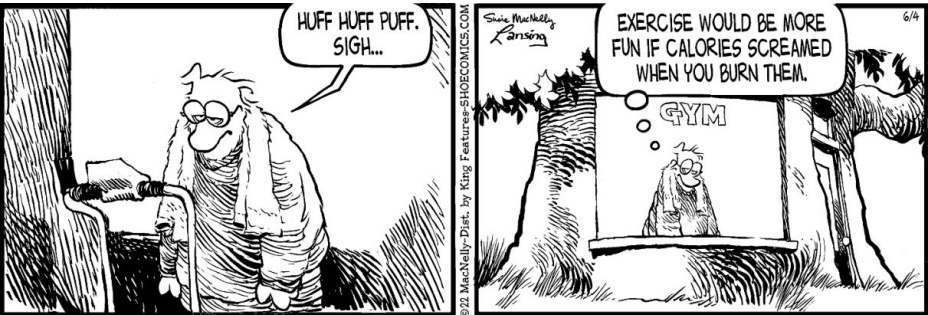
Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



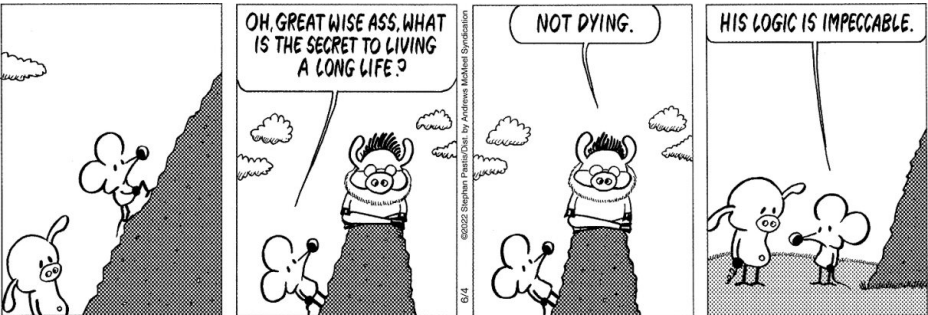
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



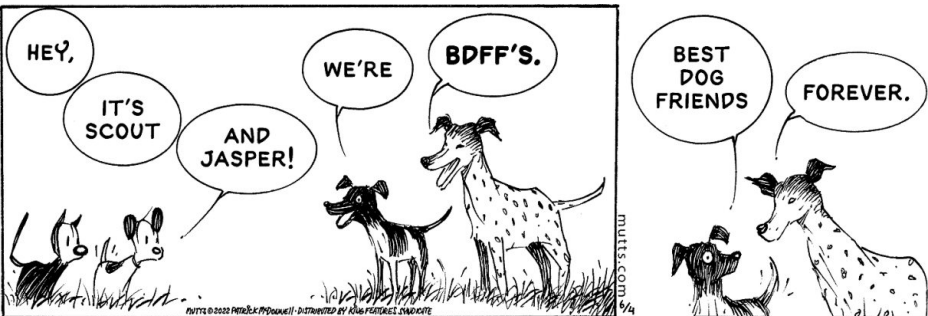
Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



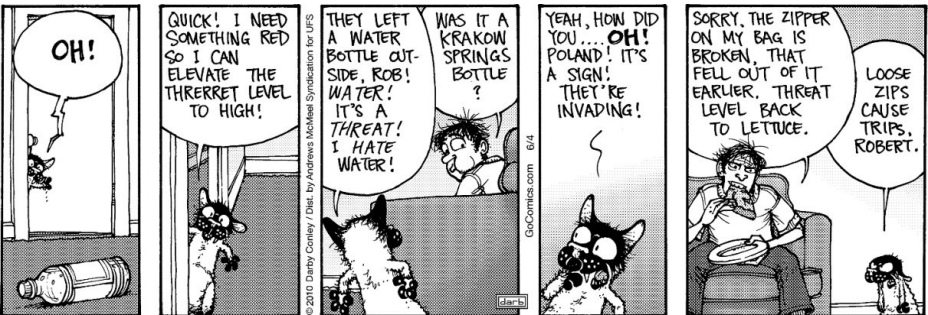
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



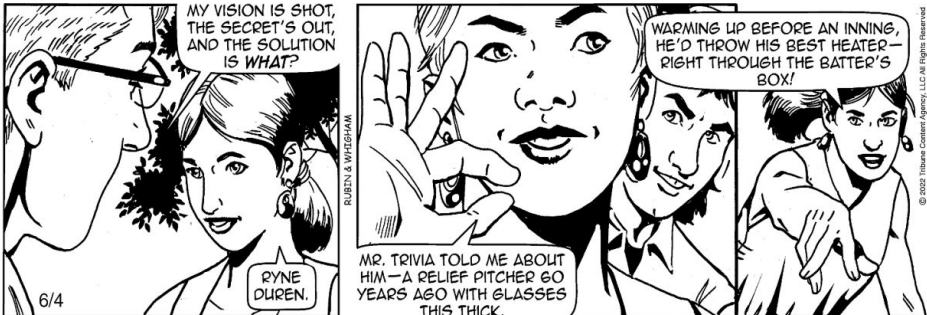
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



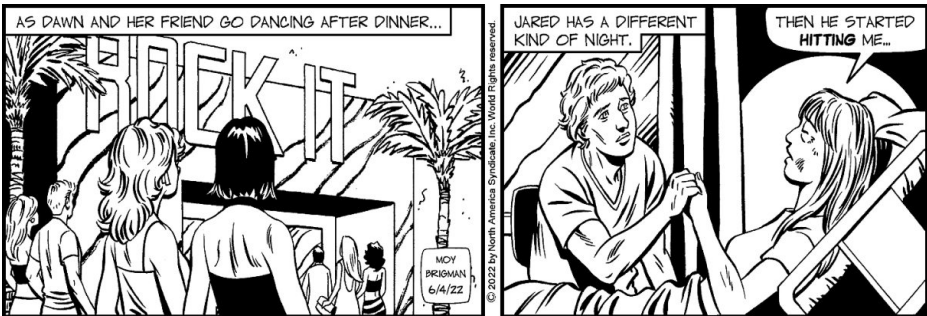
Dilbert By Scott Adams



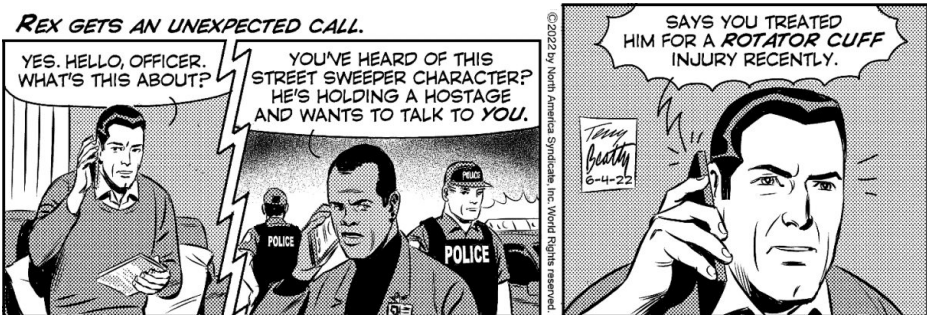
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



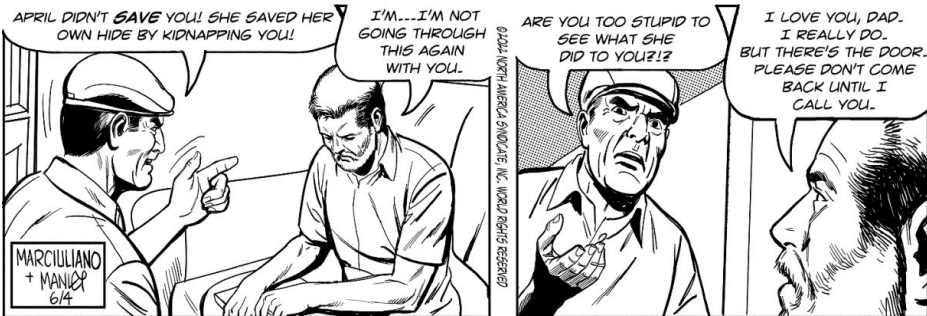
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



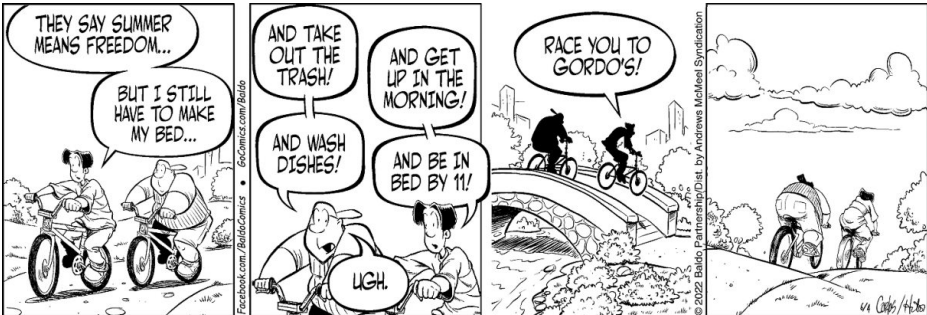
Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



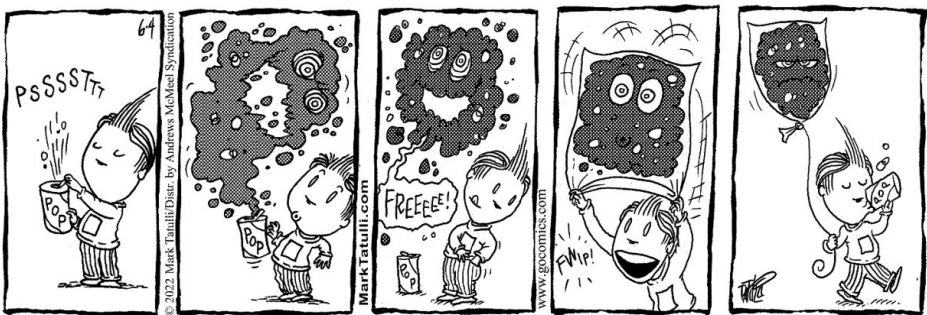
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli



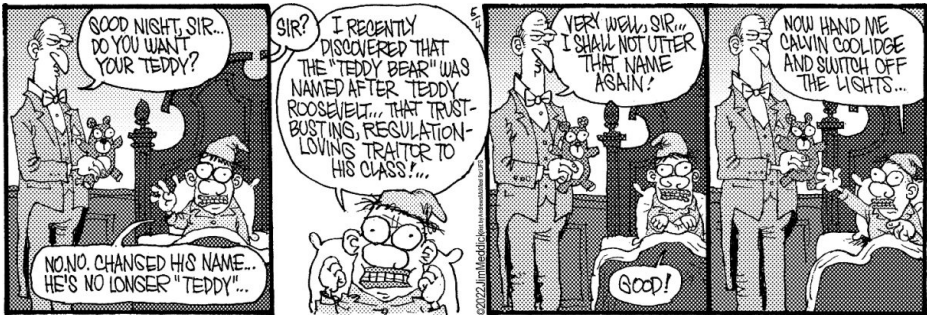
Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick



Motoring
Inside

Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

WNBA

‘Getting over the mental hump’ a real challenge

Nurse shares insight on rehab process as she progresses toward return from torn ACL

By Lila Bromberg
Hartford Courant

PHOENIX — Kia Nurse runs sprints back and forth on the court adjacent to the Phoenix Mercury’s practice at the Verizon 5G Performance Center on Thursday. After a short break she hops on an exercise bike, going at a light-to-medium

pace with her hands free to clap encouragingly as teammates run sets against male practice players. Some time later the former UConn star joins them for shooting drills. She swishes in midrange shots with ease. Then it’s 3-pointers. She dribbles into some pull-up jumpers too, beginning to find her rhythm back. It’s clear she’s excited to be in the mix of things. Nurse, a 6-foot guard, tore her right ACL in Game 4 of the WNBA semifinals against the Las Vegas Aces last season. She’s been back on the court for a little while now, but just started gradually

incorporating more movement and changes of direction. Last week she attempted a layup again for the first time, recreating the shot she injured the knee on. “A lot of it’s kind of getting over the mental hump of you can do this or you can jump back on a box with your ACL leg,” Nurse told The Courant on Thursday. “And so that’s probably been the toughest part about it. But it’s been really fun to kind of be able to jump into some practice drills and whatnot with the team.”

Turn to Nurse, Page 4



Mercury guard Kia Nurse dribbles during a 2021 game against the Aces in Phoenix. RICK SCUTERI/AP

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



Coventry players run to celebrate with pitcher Elizabeth Mitchell (12) and Sarah Miller (2) after their 6-1 win over Somers in the CIAC Class S quarterfinals Friday at Coventry High School. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

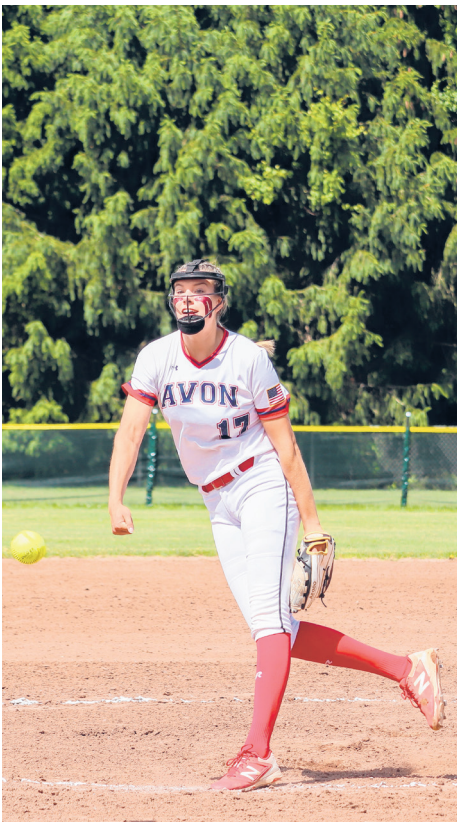
The strikeout queens

Coventry beats Somers in a Class S quarterfinal behind Mitchell’s 17 K’s, home run

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

COVENTRY — The Coventry softball team won the first time the Patriots played Somers this season. Somers took the next two, a one-run game in the regular season and an NCCC semifinal victory. Friday, the two NCCC teams faced each other again, this time in the Class S quarterfinal. There was even precedent here: they played each other last year in the Class S quarterfinal game and Somers won. This time, though, Coventry prevailed. The third-seeded Patriots rode a 17-strikeout game by sophomore Elizabeth Mitchell to a 6-1 win and will face No. 15 seed North Branford, a 9-2 winner over Shepaug Friday, in a semifinal game either Monday or Tuesday, at a time and place to be announced. Mitchell’s first home run of the season, a two-run shot over the left field fence, broke a 1-1 tie in the third inning. “We played them away the last two times,” Mitchell said. “The first time we played them was here; we beat them 8-0. I think it was just the energy from our fans and our field.”

Turn to Coventry, Page 4



Avon’s Jackie Pengel struck out 16 batters on her way to a complete-game shutout of Fitch in the Class L quarterfinal Friday. Avon won 3-0. JOE ARRUDA/HARTFORD COURANT

Avon High’s 1-2 punch of Pengel and Hasler lead Falcons into Class L semis

By Joseph Arruda
Hartford Courant

When Avon High pitcher Jackie Pengel struck out Fitch’s Fiona Taber to get out of a bases-loaded jam in the sixth inning of Friday’s Class L softball quarterfinal, she jumped, threw her hands up and ran straight to high-five her catcher, Amanda Hasler. It was her toughest inning — the only one where she faced more than three batters — on the way to a complete-game shutout and a 3-0 Avon win. The star battery of Pengel and Hasler — both ACC commits — is one of the best in the state, and they showed why on Friday. Pengel, who is headed to Syracuse, finished the game with 16 strikeouts while allowing just one hit and a walk — both of which came in that sixth inning. The sixth-seeded Falcons advance to play No. 7 Waterford in a semifinal on Monday or Tuesday at a site to be announced. “She brings her A-game every time she’s out there,” Avon coach Michael Mihalek said. “She had great command of her pitches today. She moves the ball around and it’s tough to hit her.” After striking out the side in the top of the first, the star pitcher received the only run support she needed when two-hole hitter

Turn to Avon, Page 4

COLLEGE BASEBALL NCAA TOURNAMENT

Huber’s double lifts UConn in opener vs. Wake

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

The UConn baseball team started off the NCAA Tournament by sliding into the driver’s seat. Ben Huber, who made the jump from Division II to Division I via the transfer portal, doubled to drive in in the winning run in the top of the ninth to lift the Huskies to an 8-7 victory over Wake Forest in the opening game of the College Park Regional on Friday in Maryland. UConn had given up a five-run lead in the late innings, but produced the winning run for reliever Justin Willis.

And as a result, UConn (47-13), the No. 3 seed, moves into the winners’ bracket of the double-elimination regional and will play either No. 1 Maryland or No. 4 LIU Saturday at 7 p.m.

“I never would have told you a year ago I’d be in the position I am today,” said Huber, who transferred to UConn from Limestone University in South Carolina. “I feel blessed every day and thank God that I’ve been able to do the things I did this year and thank my teammates and coaches for believing in me throughout the process.”

Huber, a slugging first baseman, stepped in for Reggie Crawford, who missed the season with an elbow injury, and is hitting .328 with 11 homers and 59 RBI in 60 games.

Wake Forest (40-18-1) plays the Maryland-LIU loser to stay alive.

The Huskies, playing in their fourth straight regional, appeared to have control of the game after scoring four runs in the fifth inning. Bryan Padillo’s two-run homer gave UConn the lead, then after a wild pitch scored another, Huber singled home a run to make it 5-2.

“We did a really good job early on of playing loose, not letting the moment get too big,”

Turn to UConn, Page 4

Up next



UConn vs. Maryland
7 p.m. ESPN

NBA FINALS CELTICS VS. WARRIORS

Celtics veteran Horford thrives in first Finals appearance

By Mark Murphy
Boston Herald

SAN FRANCISCO — Al Horford, known over the course of 15 seasons for his calm and quiet leadership, has let his emotions out this postseason. There he was again Thursday night, flexing and chest-thumping, rallying teammates and, at a just-turned 36, making many of the plays in a 41-16 fourth quar-

NBA Finals Game 2



Celtics at Warriors
8 p.m. Sun., ABC

ter run that gave the Celtics a 1-0 lead over Golden State in the NBA Finals.

He was 4-for-4 in the fourth, including the go-ahead 3-pointer with 5:08 followed by, set up by

his own steal, another bomb from the top of the circle. He ultimately scored eight straight points in the 17-0 run, then rebounded a Jaylen Brown miss and kicked out to Marcus Smart for the first of two threes by the Celtics point guard. “We were ecstatic for him,” Smart said. “Al is the OG, man. He puts in the work. Don’t nobody deserve to be here more than him. The way that he carries himself professionally, the professional-

ism he comes to this game with every day, we knew it was only a matter of time for him to have a big game, and continue to have a big game. That’s what he does. That’s what he’s been doing. He’s been that catalyst for us this whole year. Horford has often talked about his second tour of duty with the Celtics as a second chance. The fact that he’s reached the Finals for the first time in his career is

now part of a living dream. “Phenomenal. That’s what we need,” Jaylen Brown said of Horford’s Game 1 presence down the stretch. “That’s what we want. We want that veteran leadership to carry us over. Al had a bunch of great looks. We encouraged him to keep taking them. He came out his first Finals game and played amazing. He carried us and led to

Turn to Celtics, Page 2

SPORTS

UP NEXT

Celtics: NBA Finals: at Warriors (Game 2), Sunday, 8 p.m.; vs. Warriors (Game 3), Wednesday, 9 p.m.; vs. Warriors (Game 4), Friday, 9 p.m.
Rangers: Eastern Conference Finals: at Lightning (Game 3), Sunday, 3 p.m.; at Lightning (Game 4), Tuesday, 8 p.m.; vs. Lightning (Game 5, if necessary), Thursday, 8 p.m.
Red Sox: at Athletics, Saturday, 4 p.m.; at Athletics, Sunday, 4 p.m.; at Angels, Monday, 9:30 p.m.
Yankees: Tigers, Saturday, 1 p.m.; Tigers, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.; at Twins, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Mets: at Dodgers, Saturday, 10 p.m.; at Dodgers, Sunday, 4 p.m.; at Padres, Monday, 9:30 p.m.
Yard Goats: Reading, Saturday, 6 p.m.; Reading, Sunday, 1 p.m.; at Portland, Tuesday, 6 p.m.
Sun: at Seattle, Sunday, 6 p.m.; Fever, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chicago, Friday, 7 p.m.
Hartford Athletic: at El Paso, Saturday, 9:30 p.m.; at San Diego, June 11, 10 p.m.; Memphis, June 15, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

AUTO RACING

11 a.m.: NASCAR Cup Series Enjoy Illinois 300, Qualifying. (Live) FS1
1:30 p.m.: NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Toyota 200. (Live) FS1
3 p.m.: IMSA Weathertech Sportscar Championship Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix. (Live) USA
4:30 p.m.: NASCAR Xfinity Racing Series Pacific Office Automation 147. (Live) FS1

BASEBALL

12 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN2, ESPNU
1 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC, SEC
1 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB
1 p.m.: Tigers at Yankees. (Live), Apple TV+. Radio: 97.9
3 p.m.: Twins at Blue Jays. (Live) SPRTNET
3 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN2, ESPNU
4 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC, SEC
4 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB
4 p.m.: Red Sox at Athletics. (Live), NESN. Radio: 1080
6 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN2, ESPNU
7 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) FOX
7 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC, SEC
9 p.m.: NCAA Tournament, Regional: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN2, ESPNU
10 p.m.: Mets at Dodgers. (Live), SNY. Radio: 880
10 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB

BOXING

9 p.m.: Top Rank Boxing: Kambosos vs. Haney. (Live) ESPN
9 p.m.: Stephen Fulton vs. Daniel Roman. (Live) SHO
FOOTBALL
3 p.m.: USFL Football New Orleans Breakers vs Birmingham Stallions. (Live) FOX
1:30 a.m.: USFL Football New Orleans Breakers vs Birmingham Stallions. (Same-day Tape) FS1

GOLF

7 a.m.: DP World Tour Golf Porsche European Open, Third Round. (Live) GOLF
12:30 p.m.: the Memorial Tournament, Third Round. (Live) GOLF
1 p.m.: U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship Third Round. (Live) USA
2:30 p.m.: the Memorial Tournament, Third Round. (Live) CBS
2:30 p.m.: Principal Charity Classic, Second Round. (Live) GOLF
3 p.m.: U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship Third Round. (Live) NBC

HOCKEY

8 p.m.: Avalanche at Oilers. (Live) SPRTNET, TNT
SOCCER
11:50 a.m.: UEFA Nations League Soccer Lithuania vs Luxembourg. (Live) FSP
2 p.m.: Canadian Premier League Soccer York Unite FC at HFX Wanderers FC; York United at HFX Wanderers FC. (Live) FSP
7 p.m.: Canadian Championship Forge FC vs Toronto FC. (Live) FSP

SOFTBALL

3 p.m.: Women's College World Series Game 7: Teams TBA. (Live) ABC
7 p.m.: Women's College World Series Game 8: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN
TENNIS
9 a.m.: 2022 Roland-Garros Tennis Women's Final. (Live) NBC
12 p.m.: 2022 Roland-Garros Tennis Men's Doubles Final. (Live) NBC



Red Sox pitcher Garrett Whitlock winds up during a game Wednesday at Fenway Park in Boston. CHARLES KRUPA/AP

RED SOX

Sox must decide on Whitlock's future as Sale nears his return

By Jason Mastrodonato
Boston Herald

BOSTON — Who's going to save the Red Sox bullpen? The best answer at this point is Chris Sale, whose pending return could push one of the current starters to the 'pen. The Sox lefty is scheduled to throw a bullpen session Friday in Fort Myers. And if it goes well, the next step should be a minor league rehab assignment. Given he's been out the entire season with a fractured rib, it's likely he'll need at least three rehab starts before the Sox call him back to the big leagues. Assuming he stays on a five-day schedule that begins after his bullpen session, three rehab starts would put him back in the Red Sox' rotation for the start of the Cleveland series on June 24. Four rehab starts would put him back June 29 in Toronto, but Sale can't travel to Toronto because he hasn't been vaccinated against COVID-19. A return after that series seems probable. The Red Sox will have an interesting decision to make at that point. Moving to a six-man rotation could preserve long-term health and keep the starters as fresh as

possible later in the season, but a sub-.500 team might not have that luxury. Rich Hill has been the most inconsistent of the five starters, but manager Alex Cora has enjoyed the way hitters look foolish facing Tanner Houck as a piggy-back option after Hill. Going from 88-mph fastballs and 71-mph curveballs to 96-mph biting two-seamers and 86-mph sliders is a juxtaposition that has worked well for the Sox thus far. Besides, the Sox already have three lefty relievers they like: Matt Strahm, Jake Diekman and Austin Davis. Nick Pivetta and Nathan Eovaldi are the only set of teammates with complete games this year, so removing either one of them is senseless. Michael Wacha has a 2.43 ERA, so he isn't going anywhere. How about Garrett Whitlock? This is what makes the decision to keep Whitlock in the rotation even more befuddling. With Sale due back by the end of June at the latest, super prospect Brayan Bello waiting in Triple-A Worcester and James Paxton still hoping to return sometime in the second half, there are several starters that could be contributing at some point this year. Having too many starters is never a bad thing, but roping around the organization's most talented young pitcher sure is. Whitlock was sensational out of relief before they put him in the rotation. He's been OK in the rotation. Watching him throw six scoreless innings without striking anybody out against the Reds on Wednesday night was bizarre. He's still effective, but far from the dominant pitcher who was holding batters to a .121 average and .384 OPS out of relief. As a starter he's allowing a .252 average and .657 OPS. "On the whole he's done a pretty solid job," chief baseball officer Chaim Bloom said. "But it goes to show just why starting pitching is so prized in our business that turning a lineup over, a lineup that's had time to game-plan against you, and turning that lineup over a couple of times is not just something you can snap your fingers and do. "I think the first few weeks of the season, we were getting such consistency from our starting pitching, and on the whole they've done a great job, that they were making it look easy. It's not easy. And we've seen that. I think you can you can see him learning and growing on the fly."

YANKEES 13, TIGERS 0

Cole flirts with a perfecto going into 7th as Yanks roll

By Jake Seiner
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gerrit Cole pitched perfectly into the seventh inning a night after teammate Jameson Taillon lost his bid in the eighth, Aaron Judge homered and had four hits on his bobblehead night, and the New York Yankees thumped the Detroit Tigers 13-0 Friday. The Yankees are the first team with consecutive perfect-game bids of six innings or more since at least 1961, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Jose Trevino, Anthony Rizzo and Matt Carpenter also homered for New York against rookie Elvin Rodriguez (0-1), charged with 10 runs in his third big league start. The major league-leading Yankees won for the eighth time in 10 games, cooling off a fourth-place Tigers team that had just taken four of five from AL Central-leading Minnesota. Jonathan Schoop spoiled Cole's perfect night with two outs in the seventh. Schoop's grounder skipped up the middle, just past the mitt of diving second baseman

DJ LeMahieu, who made a sliding stop against Harold Castro for the second out. Cole (5-1) got an ovation from the 42,026 fans at Yankee Stadium, some of whom surely were on hand a night earlier when Taillon lost a perfect game in the eighth against the Los Angeles Angels. Jared Walsh spoiled Taillon's effort with a leadoff double that deflected off the glove of sliding shortstop Isiah Kiner-Falefa. Cole was pulled after seven scoreless innings with two hits allowed and nine strikeouts on 102 pitches. He grabbed a video tablet in the dugout as soon as he finished the seventh and appeared to replay Schoop's hit several times. There have been 23 perfect games in major league history, including two before 1900. The most recent was thrown by Félix Hernández for the Seattle Mariners against Tampa Bay on Aug. 15, 2012 — the last of three that season. Cole overpowered the hapless Tigers with a fastball up to 100 mph, dominating a team that entered Friday averaging 2.86

runs per game, worst in the majors since the 1968 White Sox. Willi Castro began the game with a routine fly to right measured at 87.3 mph, and that remained the hardest-hit ball for Detroit until Harold Castro's groundout in the seventh. In fact, the best contact early for the Tigers might've come when Jeimer Candelario bowled into Cole after a groundout to end the second inning. Cole covered the bag on Candelario's roller to first, and Candelario clipped Cole's right shoulder as he ran past. Cole's hat was knocked off, and he appeared annoyed as he picked it up from the dirt. Cole is the eighth consecutive Yankees starter to cover at least six innings, the best stretch for the franchise since a nine-game streak in 2016. The 31-year-old — signed to a \$324 million, nine-year deal prior to the 2020 season — has never thrown a no-hitter. Cole redeemed himself for a miserable outing April 19 at Detroit, when he matched a career high with five walks and allowed two runs while lasting just 1 ½ innings.

METS

How club is approaching big test against the Dodgers

By Deesha Thosar
New York Daily News

LOS ANGELES — The Amazin's woke up in the City of Angels on Friday morning with the second-best winning percentage (.660) in the National League, and the third-best percentage in the majors. The only NL team in front of them was their opponent this weekend: the mighty Dodgers. "That's a team that you have to go out there and you have to battle every single inning," Starling Marte said. "They play the game hard and that's what we strive to do. We have to match that same intensity, inning by inning, when we play them."

So one can understand if the narrative engulfing these two teams as they play a four-game set at Chavez Ravine is one that presents a big test for the Mets, who are the underdogs in this matchup despite entering the series with a double-digit first place lead in their own division.

But the Mets' overall approach to the Dodgers series, they say, is just like their attitude to any other matchup. Players say that much of that mentality, which has been omnipresent for the club no matter who they've played this season, derives chiefly from manager Buck Showalter. The skipper, somewhat predictably, said Thursday that their series against the Dodgers is no bigger test than any of the other challenging teams the Mets have faced this season.

"I don't get into the litmus test," Showalter said. "That's somebody else's terminology. It's a competitive situation every night."

But the 48,018 fans in attendance at Dodger Stadium for the series opener on Thursday night and the pomp and circumstance surrounding the much-anticipated matchup say otherwise. Whether the Mets want to publicly admit it or not, their first look at the Dodgers this weekend is a good indication of how a potential National League Championship Series between these two strong teams may play out. And that's why everyone, including the Dodgers and Mets, knows that this series is a big test.

Even Steve Cohen hopped on his private plane and flew to Los Angeles to watch his Mets this weekend. Besides the obvious excitement surrounding the series, the billionaire Mets owner has a particular affinity for the Dodger organization and how the team has built itself into a perennial playoff contender. When Cohen first bought the Mets in Nov. 2020, he was asked in his introductory press conference which sports franchise, whether its baseball or not, he'd like to model the Mets. "I like what the Dodgers are doing," Cohen, a lifelong Mets fan, responded with no hesitation. "They have a really strong farm system, they take advantage of opportunities in the marketplace for free agents and trades. I think they run a pretty good business operation too. So I think that's one team that easily seems to make the mark in the type of places that I want to do the same."

Late Thursday

Dodgers 2, Mets 0: Tony Gonsolin pitched two-hit ball over six sharp innings and the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Mets 2-0 on Thursday night, snapping New York's six-game winning streak in the opener of a four-game series between the National League's top two teams. Gonsolin (6-0) struck out five and walked one in his first career start against the Mets. The right-hander has allowed two runs or fewer in all 10 starts and lowered his ERA to 1.59. Gonsolin didn't give up a hit until the fourth — a single by Luis Guillorme after left fielder Chris Taylor's snowcone catch on Starling Marte's line drive. Initially ruled no catch, the Dodgers successfully challenged the call. Craig Kimbrel retired the side in the ninth to close out the Dodgers' fourth shutout. He had allowed runs in his past three outings, but struck out slugger Pete Alonso swinging to earn his 11th save.

Celtics

from Page 1

a victory." Said Horford: "Just grateful for this opportunity. It's just going out there and playing basketball at the end of the day. That's just what it is. Just grateful to be in this position. God has put me in this position, and it's something that I embrace and I'm excited about. Just excited to be able to share this stage with this group of guys. We

have a lot of great guys here, guys that have really bought into what we're trying to do. "It's just fun to see all that come together."

The rise of White: Derrick White's fourth quarter, like that of Horford, was pivotal. The guard buried two of his five 3-pointers down the stretch, and overall helped the Celtics get through some of their stickier moments with 5-for-8 overall 3-point shooting.

He's shot 11-for-18 from deep over the last three games, and continues to be a seamless fit for Ime Udoka. And when the Warriors spotted White some room in an attempt to help on Jayson Tatum, he made the most of his open looks. "I kind of figured they would guard me like that going into the series. They guarded me like that last time we played them," he said. "I missed my first two, but they felt great so I just stayed confident. Teammates and coaches

have always told me to stay confident. "It's good to see that one go down, and just got on a roll from there."

Record fourth quarter: According to the stat genius, Dick Lipe, the Celtics set an NBA Finals record with that 41-16 fourth quarter, breaking the old winning margin of 23 points — set by the Celtics against the Hawks (40-15) in 1960, and tied by the 1982 Sixers with a 44-21 fourth against the Lakers.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	36	15	.706	—	—	7-3	W-3	20-7	16-8
Toronto	30	20	.600	5 ½	—	8-2	W-8	17-8	13-12
Tampa Bay	30	21	.588	6	—	6-4	W-2	17-11	13-10
Boston	24	27	.471	12	2 ½	5-5	W-1	13-14	11-13
Baltimore	22	31	.415	15	5 ½	4-6	L-1	13-13	9-18

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Minnesota	30	23	.566	—	—	3-7	L-3	17-11	13-12
Cleveland	22	24	.478	4 ½	2	5-5	W-3	11-8	11-16
Chicago	23	26	.469	5	2 ½	4-6	L-3	11-13	12-13
Detroit	21	30	.412	8	5 ½	7-3	W-3	15-15	6-15
Kansas City	16	33	.327	12	9 ½	2-8	L-4	8-15	8-18

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Houston	33	18	.647	—	—	7-3	W-4	14-6	19-12
Los Angeles	27	25	.519	6 ½	—	2-8	L-8	15-13	12-12
Texas	24	26	.480	8 ½	2	6-4	L-2	12-14	12-12
Seattle	22	29	.431	11	4 ½	5-5	W-1	12-10	10-19
Oakland	20	33	.377	14	7 ½	3-7	L-3	7-20	13-13

BOX SCORES

ST. LOUIS 14, CHICAGO CUBS 5

St. Louis	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Edman ss-2b	5	3	3	0	1	.281
Gorman dh	5	1	1	3	2	.361
Goldschmidt 1b3	2	1	3	1	1	.349
Yezpe 1b	0	0	0	0	0	.271
Arenado 3b	4	1	2	1	1	.285
a-Sosa ph-ss	1	0	0	0	0	.212
Donovan 2b-3b5	0	0	1	1	2	.296
Dickerson lf	5	2	2	2	2	.194
Nootbaar rf	5	1	2	2	0	.154
Bader cf	5	2	2	0	1	.260
Knizner c	3	2	1	1	0	.241
TOTALS	41	14	15	13	10	

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Morel 2b	5	1	1	0	2	.262
Ortega cf	4	1	3	0	0	.261
Happ lf	3	1	2	0	0	.265
Frazier lf	2	0	0	0	1	.226
Schwindl dh-p	3	1	2	1	0	.239
Wisdom 3b	4	1	2	4	2	.231
Heyward rf	4	0	0	0	0	.198
Higgins c	3	0	1	0	0	.286
Rivas 1b	4	0	0	0	2	.194
Simmons ss	4	0	0	0	0	.186
TOTALS	36	5	11	5	7	

St. Louis	013	503	002	—	14	15	0
Chicago	301	000	100	—	5	11	0

a-lined out for Arenado in the 9th. **LOB:** St. Louis 3, Chicago 8. **2B:** Nootbaar (2). **HR:** Goldschmidt (12), off Stroman; Dickerson (1), off Stroman; Gorman (3), off Stroman; Dickerson (2), off Schwindel; Nootbaar (1), off Schwindel; Wisdom (12), off Mikolas. **RBIs:** Nootbaar 2(4), Goldschmidt 3(47), Dickerson 2(11), Knizner (11), Gorman 3(10), Arenado 3(7), Donovan (10), Wisdom 4(31), Schwindel (27). **SB:** Edman 2 (14), Bader (14). **Runners left in scoring position:** St. Louis 1(Bader); Chicago 3 (Schwindel, Heyward 2). **RISP:** St. Louis 4for 8; Chicago 3for 10. **Runners moved up:** Nootbaar. **GIDP:** Simmons. **DP:** St. Louis 2(Edman, Donovan, Goldschmidt; Donovan, Knizner, Donovan).

ST. LOUIS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Mikolas, W, 4-3	5	8	4	4	3	4	3.02
Z.Thompson, S, 1-14	3	1	1	1	1	3	2.25
CHICAGO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Stroman, L, 2-5	4	10	9	9	1	7	5.32
Leiter Jr.	4	3	3	3	2	3	6.23
Schwindel	1	2	2	2	0	0	18.00
WP: Leiter Jr.. Umpires: Home, Pat Hoberg; First, Bruce Dreckman; Second, Edwin Moscoso; Third, Paul Emmel. T: 3:14. A: 32,482(41,649).							

LATE THURSDAY: ATLANTA 13, COLORADO 6						
Atlanta	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Acuna Jr. dh	5	1	2	1	0	.291
Swanson ss	5	1	2	2	0	.270
Ozuna lf	5	1	1	0	1	.234
Duvall lf	0	0	0	0	0	.191
Riley 3b	5	2	3	1	2	.267
Albies 2b	5	2	2	0	0	.251
Olson 1b	5	0	1	1	0	.256
d'Arnaud c	5	3	3	6	0	.262
Heredia rf	5	1	1	1	2	.125
Harris II cf	5	2	3	1	1	.286
TOTALS	45	13	18	13	7	
Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Joe lf	3	3	2	0	0	.271
Blackmon dh	5	1	4	2	1	.251
Cron 1b	5	1	1	2	1	.303
Rodgers 2b	5	0	1	0	2	.264
McMahon 3b	4	0	1	0	2	.244
Grichuk rf	4	0	1	0	1	.275
Iglesias ss	4	0	2	0	0	.325
Hampson cf	4	1	1	1	2	.226
Serven c	3	0	0	0	3	.276
TOTALS	37	6	13	5	12	

Atlanta	032	043	100	—	13	18	0
Colorado	100	031	100	—	5	8	13
E: Rodgers (7). LOB: Atlanta 7, Colorado 7. 2B: Albies (13), Acuna Jr. (7), Swanson (10), Riley 2(13), Harris II (2), Joe 2(9), Iglesias (12). 3B: Heredia (1). HR: d'Arnaud 2(6), off Gomber; Cron (14), off Anderson; Hampson (2), off Anderson. RBIs: Heredia (5), Harris II (3), Swanson 2(26), d'Arnaud 6(23), Riley (29), Olson (23), Acuna Jr. (11), Blackmon 2(25), Cron 2(40), Hampson (9). SB: Swanson (9). Runners left in scoring position: Atlanta 3(Riley, Ozuna, d'Arnaud); Colorado 3(Joe, Rodgers, Grichuk). RISP: Atlanta 9for 19; Colorado 2for 8. Runners moved up: Ozuna, Olson, Cron 2. GIDP: Cron, Iglesias. DP: Atlanta 3(Riley, Albies, Olson; Albies, Swanson, Olson; Swanson, Albies, Olson).							

ATLANTA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Anderson, W, 4-3	6	10	5	5	1	9	4.70
Cruz	1	2	1	1	0	0	4.50
O'Day	1	1	0	0	1	2	4.26
Lee	1	0	0	0	1	1	1.23

COLORADO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gomber, L, 2-6	5	10	9	9	2	5	6.54
Black	3	7	4	4	0	1	5.97
Stephenson	1	1	0	0	1	1	1.40

WP: Gomber. **Umpires:** Home, Laz Diaz; First, Tripp Gibson; Second, Nate Tomlinson; Third, Mike Muchlinski. T: 2:58. **A:** 26,594(50,445).

ON THIS DATE

JUNE 4
1940: The Pirates beat the Boston Bees 14-2 in the first night game at Pittsburgh's Forbes Field.
1951: Pittsburgh's Gus Bell hit for the cycle to lead the Pirates to a 12-4 victory over the Phillies at Philadelphia.
1964: Sandy Koufax pitched his third no-hitter, striking out 12, as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Phillies 3-0 in Philadelphia.
1968: Don Drysdale of the Dodgers blanked the Pirates 5-0 for his sixth straight shutout.
1972: A major league record eight

LATE THURSDAY: MILWAUKEE 5, SAN DIEGO 4

San Diego	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Profar lf	5	0	0	0	3	.226
Cronenworth 2b4	0	0	0	0	1	.206
Machado 3b	5	1	2	0	0	.346
Hosmer 1b	5	0	1	1	2	.302
Voit dh	5	1	2	0	0	.225
Mazara rf	2	0	1	0	0	.500
a-Azocar ph-rf	2	1	1	0	1	.254
Grisham cf	1	0	0	0	0	.159
Alfaro c	2	1	2	2	0	.275
Alcantara ss	2	0	0	1	1	.164
TOTALS	33	4	9	4	8	
Milwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
McCutchen rf	5	0	1	2	1	.214
Urias ss	4	0	1	0	2	.245
Yelich dh	4	0	0	0	3	.226
Taylor cf	4	0	1	0	1	.243
Tellez 1b	4	0	2	0	0	.253
Hiura lf	4	1	1	0	3	.236
Wong 2b	2	2	1	0	0	.226
Caratini c	2	1	0	0	1	.222
Peterson 3b	3	1	2	3	0	.243
TOTALS	32	5	9	5	11	

San Diego	000	012	010	—	4	9	0
Milwaukee	000	010	004	—	5	9	0

No outs when winning run scored. a-doubled for Mazara in the 6th. **LOB:** San Diego 10, Milwaukee 8. **2B:** Hosmer (10), Azocar (3), Machado (13), Taylor (9). **3B:** Peterson (2).

HR: Alfaro (3), off Suter. **RBIs:** Hosmer (25), Alfaro 2 (12), Alcantara (8), McCutchen 2 (19), Peterson 3 (17). **SB:** Peterson (7). **CS:** Alcantara (1). **SF:** Alcantara. **S:** Grisham. **Runners left in scoring position:** San Diego 7(Alcantara 3, Voit 2, Hosmer, Profar); Milwaukee 3(McCutchen, Hiura, Urias). **RISP:** San Diego 1for 9; Milwaukee 3 for 12. **Runners moved up:** Machado. **GIDP:** Urias. **DP:** San Diego 1(Cronenworth, Hosmer).

SAN DIEGO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Manaea	6	5	1	1	2	8	3.77
Suarez, H, 5	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.18
Garcia, H, 9	1	1	0	0	0	2	2.66
Rogers, L, 0-3,	0	2	4	4	0	0	3.27
Crisnacht	0	1	0	0	0	0	1.88
MILWAUKEE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Houser	5	5	1	1	3	5	3.51
Suter	2	2	2	2	1	0	5.40
Strzelecki, W, 1-0	2	1	1	2	3	4	5.50

Crisnacht pitched to 1batters in the 9th.

Inherited runners-scored: Crisnacht 1-1. **HBP:** Suarez (Wong), Rogers 2(Wong, Caratini). **WP:** Suarez.

Umpires: Home, Alan Porter; First, Nick Mahrley; Second, Will Little; Third, Jeremie Rehak.

T: 3:20. **A:** 21,451(41,900).

LATE THURSDAY: CHICAGO CUBS 7, ST. LOUIS 5						
St. Louis	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Edman ss	5	0	1	0	0	.272
Goldschmidt 1b5	1	1	1	1	2	.349
Arenado 3b	4	0	1	1	0	.280
Yezpe lf	3	1	0	0	1	.271
Donovan 2b	2	0	1	0	0	.303
Pujols dh	3	0	0	0	1	.210
Molina c	4	0	1	1	0	.227
Nootbaar rf	4	1	1	0	1	.118
Bader cf	4	2	2	2	1	.256
TOTALS	34	5	8	5	6	
Chi. Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Morel cf	4	2	1	0	1	.267
Contreras pr-dh	3	1	1	2	1	.278
1-Ortega pr	0	0	0	0	0	.243
Wisdom 3b	4	0	0	1	0	.225
Schwindel 1b	4	2	3	2	0	.232
Hoerner ss	5	0	1	0	0	.281
Happ lf	4	1	2	1	0	.258
Frazier rf	1	0	1	1	0	.241
Heyward rf	1	0	0	0	0	.208
Higgins c	4	0	2	0	0	.280
Madrigal 2b	3	1	1	0	0	.216
TOTALS	33	7	12	7	2	
St. Louis	002 001 002	-	5	8	0	
Chi. Cubs	201 110 02x	-	7	12	0	

St. Louis	002	001	002	—	5	8	0
Chi. Cubs	201	110	02x	—	7	12	0

1-ran for Contreras in the 8th. **LOB:** St. Louis 6, Chicago 10. **2B:** Goldschmidt (18), Nootbaar (1), Morel (4), Schwindel (10). **HR:** Bader (5), off Givens; Contreras (9), off Liberatore; Schwindel (7), off Liberatore; Happ (6), off Liberatore. **RBIs:** Goldschmidt (44), Arenado (36), Molina (10), Bader 2(17), Contreras 2(21), Schwindel 2(26), Happ (27), Frazier (1), Wisdom (20). **SF:** Schwindel. **S:** Madrigal. **Runners left in scoring position:** St. Louis 4(Molina, Goldschmidt, Nootbaar, Yezpe); Chicago 5(Wisdom 2, Higgins, Hoerner, Happ). **RISP:** St. Louis 2for 9; Chicago 2for 10. **Runners moved up:** Pujols, Edman 2. **GIDP:** Pujols. **DP:** Chicago 1(Wisdom, Madrigal, Schwindel). **ST. LOUIS** **IP** **H** **R** **ER** **BB** **SO** **ERA**
Liberatore, L, 1-2½ 6 4 4 3 1 5.54
Wittgren 2½ 3 1 1 1 1 5.06
McFarland ½ 3 2 2 0 0 7.65
Whitley ½ 0 0 0 1 0 5.68
CHI. CUBS **IP** **H** **R** **ER** **BB** **SO** **ERA**
Thompson, W, 6-05½ 5 3 3 3 3 1.99
Rucker, H, 2 ½ 0 0 0 1 0 3.78
Effross, H, 5 2 1 0 0 2 3.04
Givens 1 2 2 2 0 1 3.48
Inherited runners-scored: Wittgren 3-0, Whitley 3-2, Rucker 2-1. **HBP:** McFarland (Contreras). **Umpires:** Home, Paul Emmel; First, Pat Hoberg; Second, Bruce Dreckman; Third, Edwin Moscoso. T: 3:04. **A:** 30,466(41,649).

shutouts were pitched in 16 major league games, five in the American League, three in the National League. The Oakland Athletics swept a pair from the Baltimore Orioles by identical 2-0 scores.
1974: The game between the Cleveland Indians and the Texas Rangers at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium was forfeited to Texas. Umpire Nestor Chylak had problems with fans all night on 10-cent beer night. The crowd got out of control when Cleveland tied the score 5-5 in the bottom of the ninth.
1996: Pamela Davis pitched one inning of scoreless relief and got the win in a

LATE THURSDAY: MIAMI 3, SAN FRANCISCO 0

SPORTS

UCONN BASKETBALL

Huskies commits Castle, Brady make USA U18 rosters

By Shreyas Laddha and Lila Bromberg
Hartford Courant

UConn men's basketball Class of 2023 commit Stephon Castle was named to the 2022 USA men's U18 national team roster, USA Basketball announced on Friday.

Castle joins a prestigious group of 12 players who made the final roster from the initial 26 invited to training camp. The team consists of players from the high school graduating classes of 2022 and 2023.

The final roster with Castle includes a pair of North Carolina commits in Gregory Jackson and Seth Trimble, Big East rival Villanova has the duo of Mark Armstrong and Cam Whitmore, Brandon Garrison and Anthony Black is another pair committed to Arkansas, Kanaan Carlyle (Stanford), Ty Rodgers (Illinois), Kel'el Ware (Oregon), Jared McCain (Duke) and Eric Dailey Jr. is undecided. University of Colorado

men's basketball coach Tad Boyle is the U18 coach. In the preliminary round, The United States is part of group B along with the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Ecuador. The United States will play the Dominican Republic on Monday, Ecuador on Tuesday and Puerto Rico on Wednesday. On June 10, the quarterfinals of the tournament will begin.

The players will compete at the 2022 FIBA U18 Americas Championship in Tijuana, Mexico, from June 6-12. Since the creation of the championship in 1990, the United States has won gold nine out of 11 times.

Castle is ranked No. 27 in the Class of 2023, according to 247sports.com. He committed to the Huskies back in November. The 6-foot-6 combo guard averaged 16.6 points, 6.5 rebounds and 3.2 assists this past season for Newton High School in Covington, Georgia.

Andre Drummond was the last Husky to make a junior national team, playing for the U17 team in 2010, which

went 8-0 and won the gold medal.

"It feels good to make it and knowing that I'm one of the only people that's committed to UConn in a long time make it," Castle told the Hartford Courant. "It means a lot to play for my country."

According to Castle, the UConn coaching staff told him about the history of UConn commits playing for USA Basketball and told him to keep playing how he's playing

Castle has relished the competition at practice and will play a bit of point guard, but mostly shooting guard or small forward, for the team.

"Everybody here is good, so it's a good environment to play around," he said.

Isuneh 'Ice' Brady makes women's team

Incoming UConn women's basketball freshman Isuneh 'Ice' Brady was

one of 12 players to make the USA Basketball U18 team, it was announced Friday night.

The prestigious honor means Brady's arrival to join the Huskies for summer workouts in Storrs will be delayed further. She will stay in Colorado for a training camp from Saturday to 12 and then will represent the United States at the FIBA Americas Championship in Mexico from June 13-19.

Brady follows in the footsteps of many former and current Huskies to represent the United States. Of the 2022-23 roster, Paige Bueckers, Azzi Fudd and Amari DeBerry all did so at the junior national level in recent years.

Once she finishes competition with USA Basketball, Brady will join the rest of her UConn women's basketball teammates in Storrs.

Shreyas Laddha can be reached at sladdha@courant.com or @shre98 on Twitter.

LATE THURSDAY SUN 97, ACES 90

Connecticut	M	FG	FT	RB	A	P	PT
Bonner	34	5-10	5-5	7	4	2	19
A. Thomas	36	6-10	4-6	12	5	4	16
J. Jones	32	7-9	2-2	7	1	6	20
Williams	37	9-18	0-0	4	6	2	18
Hiedeman	24	3-9	2-2	0	6	3	9
B. Jones	25	4-10	2-3	4	1	1	10
Carrington	12	2-6	1-1	3	0	1	5
Anderson	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	~	36-72	16-19	37	23	19	97

Three-point goals: 9-21, 42.9(Bonner 4-6, J. Jones 4-6, Hiedeman 1-4, Carrington 0-2, Williams 0-3). FG pct.: 50.0. FT pct.: 84.2. Turnovers: 9 (Williams 3, A. Thomas 2, Hiedeman 2, Bonner, Carrington). Blocks: 1(Bonner). Steals: 7(A. Thomas 2, J. Jones 2, Williams 2, Bonner).

Las Vegas	M	FG	FT	RB	A	P	PT
Young	28	9-12	6-6	3	3	1	26
Hambley	33	5-10	3-5	7	1	4	15
Wilson	32	5-16	3-7	7	0	2	13
Plum	37	8-19	2-2	4	8	3	23
Gray	31	4-7	0-0	1	6	3	8
Plaisance	15	1-2	2-2	3	1	4	5
Sheppard	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
Stokes	20	0-0	0-0	6	1	1	0
TOTALS	~	32-66	16-22	31	20	19	90

Three-point goals: 10-25, 40.0(Plum 5-10, Young 2-4, Hambley 2-5, Plaisance 1-2, Wilson 0-2, Gray 0-2). FG pct.: 48.5. FT pct.: 72.7. Turnovers: 13 (Hambley 4, Gray 4, Young 2, Wilson, Plum, Plaisance). Blocks: 4(Wilson 3, Stokes). Steals: 5 (Gray 2, Hambley, Wilson, Sheppard).

Connecticut	37	16	25	19	~	97
Las Vegas	22	28	22	18	~	90

Officials: Gulbeyan, Barnett, Richardson. Att.: 3,801at Michelob ULTRA Arena, Las Vegas, Nev.

a full-control show with pregame, halftime and post-game reviews and analysis of the women's game.

The basketball IQ and perspective that allows Nurse to excel in those broadcasting roles has stood out to Nygaard in their short time working together. After shootaround on Friday, Nurse helped the Mercury coaching staff work through the timing on an end-of-game play. She's been active on the bench during games, too.

"The longer you play, the better understanding you have," Nygaard said. "And also, I think her experience as a broadcaster for the Raptors has helped her to see the game a little bit differently. All of her experience with the Canadian national team. She's just a very savvy player. She asks the right questions."

Nygaard also said Nurse has improved her shooting, using her time away to add another dimension of range to her game. The Mercury staff eagerly await her return and the impact it could have on defense, rebounding and overall team communication and chemistry. It's safe to say Nurse is looking forward to that day too.

"Rehab has been really good. It's been a pretty smooth ride for the last seven and a half months," Nurse said. "It's been frustrating at times and boring, but at the same time it's really awesome to kind of see as the progressions come and I start to do new things that are more like how I used to be on the court. It's really exciting. So coming along."

Fellow Husky out for Mercury

Another former UConn star on the Phoenix Mercury, Tina Charles, didn't play Friday night's game against the Connecticut Sun. Charles was listed as out with a right shoulder injury. The extent of the 6-4 center's injury and her timeline to return remains unclear. Through nine games with the Mercury this season, Charles has averaged 15.1 points, 7.4 rebounds and 1.9 assists.

TENNIS FRENCH OPEN

Nadal to final after Zverev injury; Ruud next

Associated Press

PARIS — Rafael Nadal was locked in a tight, compelling and lengthy French Open semifinal Friday when his opponent, third-seeded Alexander Zverev, ran to to chase a shot and twisted his right ankle. Zverev crumpled to the ground, wailing in agony and clutching at his lower leg.

His black outfit, arms and legs caked with rust-colored clay, Zverev was helped up by a trainer, then taken away from the court in a wheelchair. Minutes later, after Nadal saw him crying in a small room in the stadium, Zverev came back out onto Court Philippe Chatrier on crutches, his right shoe removed, and conceded the match, unable to continue.

The sudden end to a contest that was 3 hours old but not even through two full sets allowed Nadal to become, on his 36th birthday, the second-oldest men's finalist in French Open history. Now he will try to become the oldest champion at a tournament he's already won a record 13 times, facing first-time Grand Slam finalist Casper Ruud on Sunday.

"Only thing that I can say is I hope he's not too bad. Hopefully it's just the normal thing when you turn your ankle, and hopefully nothing (is broken). That's what everybody hopes," Nadal said. "Even if for me it's a dream to be in the final of Roland Garros, of course that way is not the way that we want it to be ... If you are human, you should feel very sorry for a colleague."

With the pitter-patter of rain audible against the closed retractable roof at Court Philippe Chatrier, and many in the crowd of 15,000 repeatedly chanting "Ra-fa! Ra-fa!" he emerged to claim a tight-as-can-be, draining first set by a 7-6 (8) score after 1 1/2 hours. The second set also was headed to a tiebreaker after another 1 1/2 hours when Zverev tumbled behind the baseline and lost a point that allowed Nadal to hold serve for 6-all.

A trainer came out to attend to him, and Nadal walked around the net to check on Zverev, too. After Zverev returned to the court to say he would need to retire from the match, he shook the chair umpire's hand and then hugged Nadal.



Coventry's Julia Boya lays down a bunt to advance a runner in the CIAC Class S quarterfinals against Somers on Friday at Coventry High School. Coventry won, 6-1. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Coventry

from Page 1

Mitchell had two hits and two RBI for Coventry (20-4).

Coventry had struggled to hit Somers pitcher Madison Hinkley in the past few games. So the Patriots worked on that in practice Thursday.

"She's so good," Coventry coach Jeff LaHouse said. "We worked on trying to adjust to her pitch, to get the bat on it. Last time we played them, she threw a no-hitter against us. She has something — she throws and it looks right there and you swing at it and it goes above your bat every time."

"So what we decided to do was visually drop the strike zone. We worked on it yesterday: something that looks like a strike, is not a strike. We're looking for low strikes only. We laid off those pitches that came up, they were balls, then when they came down in the zone we worked on, we were able to get the contact on it. We adjusted."

Sixth-seeded Somers (19-6) scored first when leadoff batter Kiana Kalman doubled and scored on a single by Mackenzie Mike in the first inning.

Avon

from Page 1

Hasler — an NC State commit — crushed a home run that scraped the top of the fence in left-center field after a long at-bat.

"It's so exhilarating," Hasler said of her solo shot. "Just being in states, in the quarterfinal, we've worked so hard to get here. Just watching it go over and being able to score for my team, it's just so awesome."

It was the first run Fitch starting pitcher Charlotte Cabral allowed in the tournament after she pitched two straight complete games. Pengel was on-deck, jumping up and down screaming before leading a mob to meet Hasler as she crossed the plate.

"I was so excited," Pengel said. "So happy for her. And I knew after that, they had no shot."

The Falcons added two more runs of support in the bottom of the third inning when freshman Kayla Jette lined a single into center field.

Pengel and Hasler have been good friends since they played Little League together. Now they sit next to each other in first period calculus and Pengel trusts her batterymate with all of her pitch calling.

Hasler doesn't take that part of the job lightly. She studied No. 14 Fitch's previous games, knew its weaknesses and called a

But after that, the Spartans, the Class S runners-up last year, struggled to get on base. Coventry scored three runs in the third inning, one on an error, and had three more in the sixth after Mitchell singled and three batters reached base on errors.

"It just didn't go our way today," Somers coach Melanie Zamorski said. "We had a couple mistakes in the field. It happens. We had three kids playing with us that had varsity experience prior to this year, we're still building and learning. We've had a strong run. Some of our youngness showed today and that's OK. I'm proud of what we did this year."

"Hinkley's been outstanding all season long. She was good today; she wasn't her best today. We hung one ball in the zone we didn't mean to that went over the fence; that happens sometimes. Mitchell was on point. We didn't hit her as well as we hoped today."

Zamorski said it was hard to play the same team four teams, especially one from their conference.

"I hope they go out and have a good run to the championship," she said.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

near-perfect game.

"It makes my job easy," Mihalek said. "They haven't played together since their freshman year (because of untimely injuries and COVID), so it's kind of a reunion this year for them to play together again. They just really gel, and I think they anticipate one another really well."

Steve Harris couldn't help but pull over when he saw there was a game being played on the field where he coached Pengel as an 8-year-old, and he saw her parents watching from behind the plate.

"Where's Jackie?" he asked. "'17. The 6-foot-2 one,'" they responded.

Harris rushed back to his car, finished running the errand he was on and quickly returned to the field where he stood and cheered next to the dugout as the little girl he once coached carried a perfect game through 5 1/3 innings.

"There are a lot of people that have coached her, but the fact that I had a little piece when she was little, it makes me feel very proud," Harris said. "I just remember her smile, just the joy — the love of the game."

Regardless of the way the reunion ends, Pengel and Hasler are both headed to the ACC where they'll soon become familiar foes.

"I'm really excited for it. I'm gonna strike her out," Pengel said jokingly, with Hasler just out of earshot.

Nurse

from Page 1

Though Nurse wants to keep any specific dates private to limit outside expectations with so many variables at play, she and the Mercury coaching staff are aiming for a return sometime during the second half of the WNBA season.

"It's like a tease to have her in the drills," first-year Mercury head coach Vanessa Nygaard said Friday. "I can't wait. It's a countdown more than a count-up at this point. I'm really excited to have her back."

Diana Taurasi is eager to have Nurse back on the floor with her, too.

"I thought last year going into game four against Vegas we were clicking on all cylinders," Taurasi said. "[Kia] was starting to really find her stride here — it was her first year. And that injury was devastating for us as a team and obviously for her."

"And just to see her coming back and getting back on the court — you know, rehab is really hard. It's tedious, it's every single day. And she's attacked it every single day. But that's who Kia is."

Nurse is grateful to say she only needs one hand to count the really tough moments from the rehab process. One of those came shortly after she suffered the injury, as she sat in her bedroom trying to process what had just happened. It was her first injury of that magnitude; she'd never even had knee problems prior.

"You can feel sad, you feel sorry for yourself for 24 hours," Nurse recalled telling herself. "And after that you have to get to work and start the rehab process."

As she rehabbed throughout the fall and winter, still unable to get on the court herself, Nurse got the "basketball fix" she needed in her role as an analyst for TSN. She's been part a of the network's professional basketball coverage since 2020, even taking part in the first all-female NBA broadcast in March 2021 as a color analyst.

"It was fun to kind of be out there and still pick up things from NBA players and what they do in their games and things that I can add to mine," Nurse said. "Seeing the game from a different lens and kind of speaking about what I see, I think that definitely helps me as a player."

Nurse noticed similarities in her game and Raptors guard Fred VanVleet's, as they both come off stagger screens and use pin downs to get open shots, so she paid particular attention to the ways different teams tried to guard him and how he adjusted. Nurse also liked watching Celtics forward Jayson Tatum, picking up how he manipulated spacing to create his own shot.

Nurse also helped TSN with their coverage of the NCAA Tournament. She had been involved in their March Madness coverage in previous years, but this was the first time they did

UConn

from Page 1

Huber said by phone as he rode the bus back to the Huskies' hotel.

Casey Dana's two-run homer in the sixth extended the lead to 7-2.

UConn starter Austin Peterson held the lead through six innings, striking out 11 to raise his season total to a school-record 140. He left after throwing 109 pitches. Wake Forest scored in the seventh on Lucas Costello's solo homer, then tied it with four in the eighth, the last two on Adam Cecere's homer.

"We've been in this same situation all year," Huber said. "We've won a lot of close games, that's what makes us really good. No one acted scared, we just



UConn reliever Justin Willis closes out Friday's 8-7 win against Wake Forest in College Park, Maryland. CHRIS JONES/UCONN

MOTORING

COURANT.COM/CLASSIFIED/AUTOMOTIVE



Ford's Chief Executive Engineer Linda Zhang unveils the Ford F-150 Lightning in Dearborn, Michigan. CARLOS OSORIO/AP 2021

Ford changes its own game

Lightning re-imagines the pickup as utility vehicle and mobile generator

By Henry Payne
The Detroit News

Ford birthed its electric vehicle program in late 2017. It's no coincidence the date dovetailed with first deliveries of the Tesla Model 3. The Silicon Valley startup had changed the electric game with its \$40,000, 220-mile range electric sedan. Delivered less than two years since it was first introduced by CEO Elon Musk in April 2016 to an unprecedented 200,000-plus pre-orders, the Model 3 headlined a clean-energy portfolio that included home-battery energy storage and solar roof tiles.

Ford realized that it needed to change its own game to compete.

The result was Team Edison, a startup auto company within Ford to mimic Tesla. A little over four years later and with 200,000 pre-orders, Ford's F-150 Lightning EV pickup truck headlines a new Ford Motor Co. business model offering electric vehicles as well as battery-powered energy solutions for the home, not unlike Elon Musk's startup.

"Our competitor is Tesla," Ford Vice President for global EVs Darren Palmer in San Antonio at the Lightning's media test. "We see our brand to be an electric-vehicles and an electric-energy company."

The Lightning is the result of a comprehensive process to re-imagine the pickup as a utility vehicle

and a mobile generator in a fraught energy landscape.

"We worked like a startup because we were competing against start-ups," said Palmer. "You could see EVs were really coming of age. We didn't know what customers wanted, so the first thing we did was go out and see customers in California, Norway, China, Europe. Customers really opened our eyes to what we needed (and how) to make use of the new technology to do new things that customers had never seen before."

New things like a front truck — "frunk" — that can hold two golf bags for a day on the Texas links. Or offer three days of generating power for the home during a California blackout.

The Lightning debuts at a time when one of its key markets, California, is facing energy shortages this summer as the state shuts down baseload generation in its transition to green energy sources. "Officials forecast a potential shortfall of 1,700-5,000 megawatts," reported Reuters during the Lightning's media rollout. "Supply gaps along those lines could leave between 1 million and 4 million people without power."

Ford product experts used the opportunity to tout Lightning's unique abilities to operate as an electric generator for about the same \$10,000 price as a permanent, natural-gas generator.



The 2022 Ford F-150 Lightning Platinum pre-production model. FORD

"The Lightning can be used as an extended-range battery to power your home for three to 10 days," said Ford Energy Services Business Manager Ryan O'Gorman.

He demonstrated a home setup connecting the truck to a Ford Charge Station Pro wall charger and Home Integration System — consisting of a battery, power inverter and bi-directional electricity flow — that immediately kicks in if the grid goes dark. He also touted cloud-based software that charges the Lightning during low-cost, off-peak hours — then transfers that cheap electricity back to the house during peak, high-cost evening hours.

Tesla's Powerwall pioneered the home-energy storage solution in 2015 — storing energy from roof solar panels to power homes during peak hours. Ford takes the idea a step

further by integrating its truck in the system.

Ford's Palmer credits Team Edison's human-centric design focus for the company's new direction.

"We were struggling to get going in electric vehicles in the right way," he said. "We are an over 100-year old company, and as projects came forward they were being removed because they weren't meeting profit targets. You use the principle of human-centric design when it's not obvious what the future path is, when there is disruption."

Employing a diverse staff in age and product backgrounds, Team Edison hit the road to ask customers what they wanted from EVs. They trotted the globe to meet customers. They focused on re-imagining company icons by developing the electric F-150 Lightning, Mustang Mach-E and E-Transit van.

For the F-150, they went to Texas, where 1 in 5 Ford pickups are sold.

"(F-150's) the best-selling vehicle of any kind in America for decades. It could change people's relationship w EVs if we get it right. But we didn't know who wanted to buy this vehicle," said Palmer. "So we made prototypes out of cardboard, we made up some brochures and we went to Texas."

Accompanied by a human-centric design specialist — "essentially a psychologist," said Palmer — Team Edison confronted a group of hardened Texas truck drivers. The team got the truckers' attention with muscle-bound specs — 560 horsepower, 775 foot-pounds of torque, 10,000-pound towing — that embarrassed a gas-powered Raptor performance truck.

"Then we showed them the frunk and what

the frunk could be," said Palmer.

Armed with customer demand, Team Edison constructed an all-new truck but that stayed true to what had made F-150 an essential tool to generations of truck buyers.

Aft of the A-pillar (and frunk) were F-150's familiar aluminum body panels.

The bed? "Deliberately identical, because customers said their accessories needed to fit and they needed over 2,000 pounds of payload," said Ford's EV boss. Below decks the F-150 body sits on familiar, ladder-frame chassis construction, yet with all-new wheels, gearbox, motors, battery, steering and brakes.

"It was designed to do what customers need ... starting at \$39,974," said Palmer. "We wanted to take all the excuses away for electric. It's a truck for everybody."

Average US vehicle now a record 12.2 years old

By Breana Noble
The Detroit News

The average age of light vehicles in operation has hit a record, increasing by two months this year to 12.2 years, as a shortage of vehicles is keeping Americans in their cars for longer, according to a study released in May.

It's the fifth consecutive year of increase even as the U.S. vehicle fleet recovered, growing by 3.5 million vehicles in the past year,

according to the report from financial information firm S&P Global. Inc's mobility team. The results are indicative of pent-up demand that's likely to keep automakers, their dealers and repair shops happy for years to come.

Prior to the pandemic, researchers had expected the average age of vehicles to flatten because of declining sales from their more than 17 million annual peak. Interrupted production from the COVID-19

pandemic followed by a global microchip shortage and other scarce parts, however, has depleted dealership lots and sent up the price of vehicles.

"It is a little bit of a unique situation driving the growth trajectory," said Todd Campau, automotive aftermarket practice lead at S&P Global. "We expect it to continue to grow for a few years and then drop off in the '25, '26 range, depending on how the pandemic, pent-up demand

and scrappage work out."

The average age of a car on the road is 13.1 years, while trucks sit at 11.6 years, according to the analysis.

Scrappage volume for 2021 was at more than 11 million vehicles, a rate of 4.2% of vehicles in operation. That was the lowest annual rate in the past two decades, a reverse from 2020 that saw the highest volume in two decades at more than 15 million vehicles.



A shortage of vehicles is keeping Americans in their cars for longer, an analysis shows. NAM Y. HUH/AP 2021

Of course, increasing age of American cars likely means vehicles with worse fuel economy stay on the

road, costing drivers money in higher gas prices and emitting more pollution than newer models.



The 2022 Subaru Ascent can take the family on light off-road adventures. SUBARU

AUTO REVIEW

2022 Subaru Ascent ready for dirt roads and a thirsty family

By Barry Spyker
Tribune News Service

Subaru's largest SUV has a daring new look for 2022. The Onyx edition offers a cool aesthetic, with blacked-out grille and darkened 20-inch wheels. Inside, washable synthetic leather seats are quickly ready for the next adventure.

Still, most folks shopping the three-row midsize are more focused on Subaru's signature feature, standard all-wheel-drive, and the family seating of up to eight. They'll find plenty of cargo space, cubbies and 19 cup/bottle holders. Yeah, that's 2.37 holders per thirsty occupant, so bring a back-up bottle.

The Ascent, which debuted as a 2019 model, looks a lot like Subaru's Outback: same grille and simple headlight design but on a taller front. On the highway it is stable and confident with ample passing power. The ride is comfortable for the long hauls but more could be done to isolate the cabin from wind and road noise.

Ascent's cabin is roomy and comfortable with family-friendly materials that are easy to clean. Top trims like the Limited get heated leather seats, with 10-way power on the driver's seat and 4-way for the passenger. Instrument gauges flank

2022 Subaru Ascent Limited

Base Price: \$40,720 As tested: \$43,670 (Includes options package featuring Harman Kardon premium audio with 14 speakers; panoramic power moonroof; Starlink 8-inch multimedia system; 2nd-row captain's chairs) **Powertrain:** Turbocharged 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine, mated to CVT with paddle shifters **Fuel economy:** EPA says 20 mpg city, 26 highway, 22 combined

sensors front and rear help guide it into tight spaces at the mall.

The Ascent, which debuted as a 2019 model, looks a lot like Subaru's Outback: same grille and simple headlight design but on a taller front.

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Ascent's cabin is roomy and comfortable with family-friendly materials that are easy to clean. Top trims like the Limited get heated leather seats, with 10-way power on the driver's seat and 4-way for the passenger.

Instrument gauges flank

a reconfigurable driver data display. A separate screen atop the dash contains off-road info and particulars on Subaru's X-Mode, which controls the engine, torque and braking to meet snow, dirt or mud conditions.

An 8-inch touchscreen is home to navigation and infotainment with compatibility to Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. The system is not as elaborate as some but has big icons, is responsive to inputs and easy to learn.

Subaru has an extensive list of safety features beyond its AWD, including its EyeSight driver-assist package with automatic emergency braking, adaptive cruise control with lane-keep assist, lane departure warning and reverse automatic braking.

It's an uphill battle for the Ascent against heavyweights like the Toyota Highlander, Jeep Grand Cherokee and Kia Telluride, with as much as four times the sales. And while there have been some reliability issues in the first couple of years, Consumer Reports magazine says they appear to have been corrected.

The Ascent is ready to serve those with a hunger for exploring and a thirst that requires (are you kidding?) 19 cup and bottle holders.

Does a turbocharger still need to be handled with extra care?



Bob Weber
Motormouth

Q: My first turbocharged vehicle was a 2003 Volvo XC90 with a 5-cylinder engine. The owner's manual stated that the engine should be warmed up to allow the turbocharger to come to temperature before driving and let the turbo cool down for a couple minutes before shutting the engine off. I now have a 2015 Audi A5 with a turbocharged 4-cylinder engine. The "nanny" reminder system tells me to "Avoid warming up engine while stationary," basically suggesting that I drive away. I've been following the Volvo tactic when driving my Audi. So, the bottom line is that, depending on outside temperature, I'm only wasting a little over a minute of gas when starting a cold engine. What do you recommend? Does a car's turbocharger need to warm up/cool down or not?
— T.F., Virginia Beach, Virginia

A: "There goes another guy with a blown turbo." We used to hear that when turbochargers debuted as a quick answer for more power from dinky engines. Blue smoke enshrouded cars as they burned oil. To help the turbo survive, motorists were cautioned to start and idle for about 30 seconds and to also allow the engine to idle for a minute or so before shutdown. The cooling off period helped prevent oil from coking in the hot turbo.

Turbos have come a long way. Drive gently for the first five minutes and kill the engine normally unless



Turbocharged vehicles have come a long way. DREAMSTIME

you just pulled off the Autobahn.

Q: I've got a 2011 Ford F150 that frequently sits in our driveway without running. It has a 12-volt power outlet on the dash (not the cigarette lighter). It appears from testing that it is power-on capable all the time. Do you think a solar charger plugged in here would provide a trickle charge to the battery? I am concerned about overcharging the battery. My Ford service writer does not have the answer to my question. I'm hoping your vast experience and resources can help!
— M.L., Center Valley, Pennsylvania

A: Solar chargers with overcharge protection (smart chargers) are the way to go. Check out your favorite auto parts store, big box store or shop online.

Q: The question from T.B. claiming better fuel efficiency the faster one goes reminded me of an incident I experienced. I was headed on a well-traveled interstate having a 70 mph limit to a holiday with family when I just happened to encounter my sister on the same highway, heading for the same place. I was tooling along at 55, but she was flying at 75. Just for kicks,

I decided to follow her. Normally, I could make the round trip on a tank of gas with a couple days' worth for errands left over. Guess what? I was not able to make it back on that tank of gas! I realized about 30 miles from home that I had to stop to refuel to be sure of making it through a major bridge-tunnel. That needle was dropping fast!
— C.H., Hampton, Virginia

A: With the price of gas nearly the highest since the recession of the 1980s, we may see the return of lower speed limits once again, but probably not anytime soon. Adjusted for inflation, we are paying about 20 cents less than at the peak in March 1981, according to AAA. That may not be bad enough to mandate a 55 mph speed limit, as was imposed during the Carter administration. You prove the point that 55 mph vs. 70 mph makes a big difference.

Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. He maintains this status by seeking certification every five years. Weber's work appears in professional trade magazines and other consumer publications. Send questions along with name and town to motor.mouth.tribune@gmail.com.

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WEATHER

SATURDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and seasonable. Northwest winds turning southwest around 5 mph.

HIGH 81°
LOW 51°

SUNDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and seasonable.

HIGH 78°
LOW 55°

MONDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and mild.

HIGH 80°
LOW 56°

TUESDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mixed clouds and sunshine, a couple showers are possible.

HIGH 78°
LOW 61°

WEDNESDAY







SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Morning clouds and some possible showers, becoming partly sunny.

HIGH 81°
LOW 59°

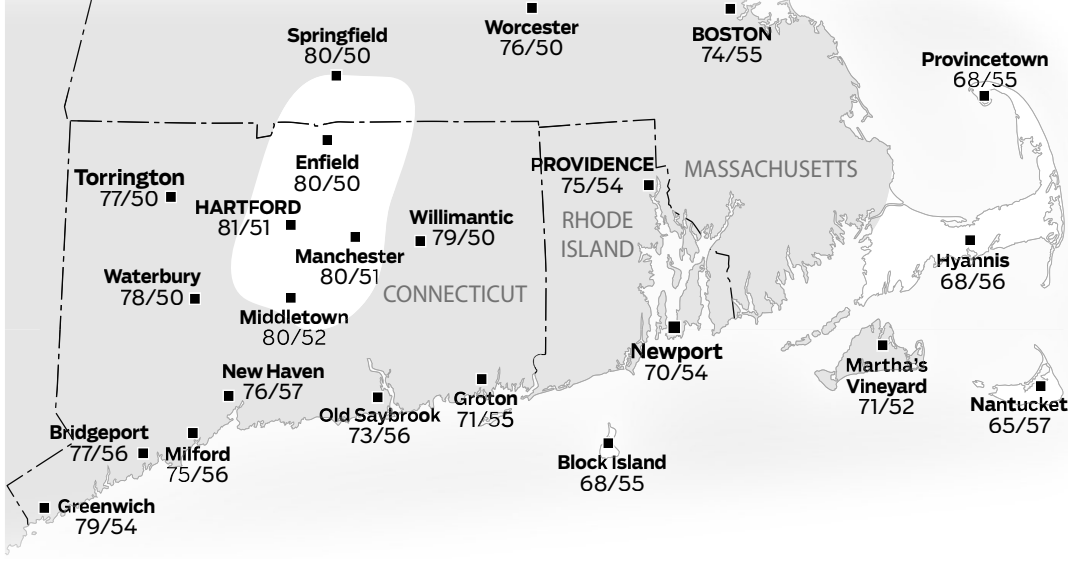
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YOURCAST



OUTLOOK

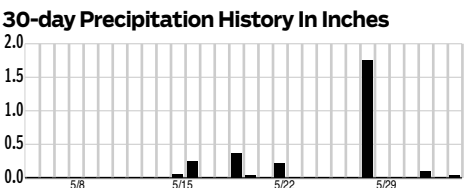
The Tropical Atlantic came to life with the formation of Tropical Storm Alex. The system will produce heavy rain and gusty winds over Florida on Saturday making for a less than an ideal weekend there. In Connecticut, high pressure will dominate bringing mostly sunny skies with low humidity, light winds and comfortable temperatures. The fair skies will continue on Monday, then we could get into some unsettled conditions from Tuesday through Thursday. It will be nothing like Florida is experiencing, rather there should just be scattered showers. Some sunshine is even expected.

-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.03	0.15
Month to date	0.12	0.45
Total this year	17.70	18.34

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks



Air Quality Forecast For Today

Very high

8

81°

Good

44

Low

Trees

Air Quality Today

Ultraviolet Index Today

Pollen Count Yesterday

Heat Index Today

Today

Tomorrow

Sunrise

5:17 a.m.

5:17 a.m.

Sunset

8:21 p.m.

8:21 p.m.

Moonrise

9:24 a.m.

10:27 a.m.

Moonset

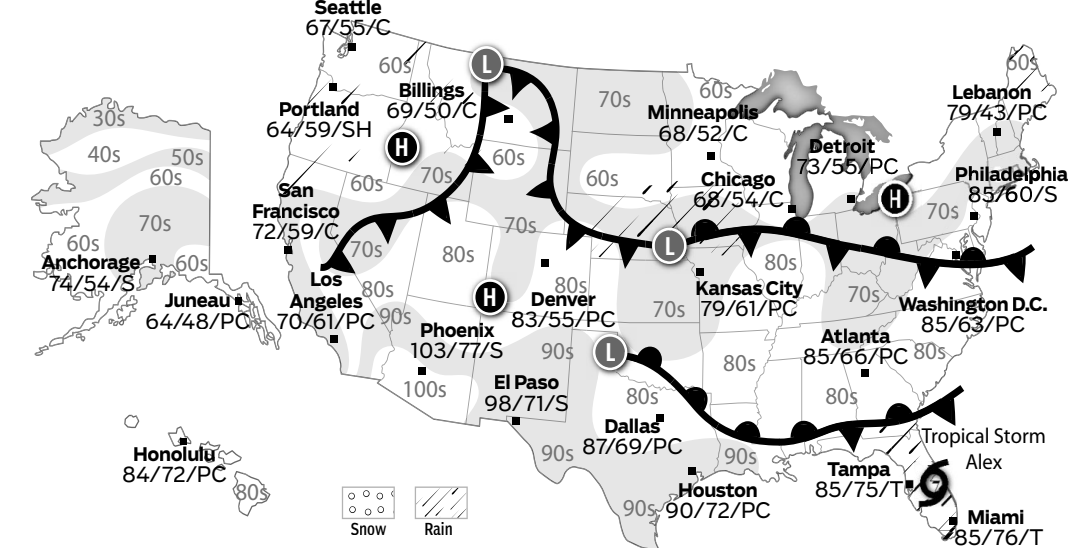
12:07 a.m.

12:40 a.m.

Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	1:27 a.m.	8:04 a.m.	59°
Saybrook Jetty	2:07 p.m.	8:05 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	2:38 a.m.	8:57 a.m.	60°
Madison	3:18 p.m.	8:58 p.m.	
New Haven	5:21 a.m.	a.m.	
Stamford	6:01 p.m.	12:43 p.m.	
	2:41 a.m.	9:01 a.m.	62°
	3:20 p.m.	9:15 p.m.	
	3:01 a.m.	9:25 a.m.	64°
	3:40 p.m.	9:39 p.m.	
	3:05 a.m.	9:39 a.m.	63°
	3:44 p.m.	10:03 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 3.57 feet at 6:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B.I. Sound
Weather	MSunny	PSunny	Fog
Wind	NE/S, 5	NE/S, 5	NW/SW, 5
Seas	1 ft.	1 ft.	1-3 ft.



AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND

Bangor	66 49 C
Burlington	77 48 PC
Caribou	61 48 SH
Concord	77 45 PC
Montpelier	72 43 PC
Mt. Wash.	48 28 C
Portland	66 49 C
Woods Hole	72 52 PC

NATION

Albany	75 46 S
Albuquerque	90 61 S
Atlantic City	82 53 S

Baltimore

Baltimore	84 55 S
Bismarck	71 45 PC
Boise	66 54 SH
Buffalo	66 49 PC
Charleston	83 69 C
Cincinnati	79 55 S
Cleveland	69 51 PC
Indianapolis	81 59 PC
Jacksonville	87 70 PC
Las Vegas	98 74 S
Miami Beach	85 78 T
Milwaukee	63 51 PC

Nashville

Nashville	85 60 S
New Orleans	90 73 PC
New York	82 58 S
Okla. City	81 66 C
Orlando	83 73 T
Pittsburgh	74 49 S
Raleigh	84 58 PC
St. Louis	85 65 PC
Salt Lake City	84 58 C
San Antonio	94 75 PC
San Diego	68 63 C

Tucson

Tucson	91 79 PC
Budapest	83 59 T
Buenos Aires	59 52 C
Cairo	97 73 S
Milan	87 70 T
Montreal	70 52 S
Moscow	72 52 R
Nassau	79 72 T
New Delhi	108 82 PC
Paris	82 64 T
Prague	75 57 C
Rio de Janeiro	75 55 R
Rome	91 70 C
Seoul	88 68 C
Singapore	95 75 T

WORLD

Amsterdam	68 52 PC
Athens	91 72 S
Bangkok	95 82 T
Barbados	87 76 S
Beijing	86 68 SH
Beirut	80 67 PC
Berlin	73 50 C
Bermuda	80 73 PC

Stockholm

Stockholm	69 52 PC
Sydney	64 48 PC
Tel Aviv	81 63 PC
Tokyo	77 66 PC
Toronto	68 54 S
Vancouver	64 55 SH
Warsaw	72 50 T

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THURSDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULT

GIRLS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments
Class L—Quarterfinal
Upper Bracket
AVON 5, NORTH HAVEN 2

FRIDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

SOFTBALL

CIAC State Tournaments
Class LL
Second Round
Upper Bracket
BRISTOL CENTRAL 3, CHESHIRE 1

Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
DANBURY 5, WEST HAVEN 2 (11)
Lower Bracket
SOUTHINGTON 6, MALONEY 2
FAIRFIELD LUDLOWE 2, HALL 1

Class L—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
BRISTOL EASTERN 9, EAST HAVEN 7
MASUK 2, ST. JOSEPH 1

Lower Bracket
AVON 3, FITCH 0
WATERFORD 6, ELLINGTON 1

Class M—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
WOODLAND 2, WOLCOTT 0
WATERTOWN 5, NORTHWESTERN 2
Lower Bracket
OXFORD 7, HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH 0
SEYMOUR 9, SHEEHAN 5

Class S—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
CROMWELL 10, HALE-RAY 0
OLD LYME 2, LYMAN MEMORIAL 1 (9)

Lower Bracket
COVENTRY 6, SOMERS 1
S 100-000-0-1-4-6
C 003-003-x-6-4-0
WP: Elizabeth Mitchell. LP: Madison Hinkley.
HR: C—Mitchell. Rec.: C—20-4; S—19-6.
NORTH BRANFORD 9, SHEPAUG 2

GIRLS LACROSSE

CIAC State Tournaments
Class L—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
DARIEN 15, GREENWICH 2
WILTON 17, CHESHIRE 6

Lower Bracket
RIDGEFIELD 14, NEWTOWN 9
Class M—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
MASUK 16, SHEEHAN 7
GUILFORD 19, EAST LYME 8
BARLOW 13, FITCH 9

Class S—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
WESTON 12, CANTON 11 (OT)
NEW FAIRFIELD 17, GRANBY 5
Lower Bracket
OLD SAYBROOK 15, NORTH BRANFORD 13
LAURALTON HALL 13, STONINGTON 11

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CIAC State Tournaments
Class L—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
RIDGEFIELD 3, ENFIELD 2 (25-17, 20-25, 22-25, 25-22, 15-5)
B: Drew Rancourt, 21kills, 13digs, 4blocks, John Bellafronte, 9kills, 3aces, 3blocks, Hery Chavez, 21digs. Rec.: R—17-2; E—18-5.

DARIEN 3, NEWTOWN 0 (25-15, 25-20, 25-22)
Class M—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket
XAVIER 3, CHESHIRE 2 (24-26, 22-25, 25-21, 25-19, 18-16)
X: Vinny Rappoccio, 13digs, 9kills, 1ace, Peter O'Brien, 16kills, 15digs, 3aces, Tom Lunt, 7digs, 6kills, 5assists; C: Tim Nugent, 48assists, 5

kills, 5digs, Will Allen, 21kills, 5digs, 1ace. Rec.: X—16-7; C—16-8.

BARLOW 3, NEWINGTON 0 (25-16, 25-14, 25-23)
Lower Bracket
FARMINGTON 3, SOUTH WINDSOR 0 (25-22, 26-24, 25-17)
NEW CANAAN 3, MASUK 0 (30-28, 25-22, 25-17)

BOYS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments
Class LL—Semifinals
STAPLES 6, AMITY 1
GREENWICH 4, WESTHILL 3
Class L—Semifinal
DARIEN 6, HAND 1
NEW CANAAN 7, EAST LYME 0
Class M—Semifinals
AVON 6, WESTON 1
BARLOW 4, BERLIN 3
Class S—Semifinals
GRANBY 6, WESTBROOK 1
SHEPAUG 4, SUFFIELD 3

GIRLS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments
Class LL—Semifinal
AMITY 4, WILTON 3
Class L—Semifinals
NEWINGTON 4, BARLOW 3
GUILFORD 4, AVON 3
Class M—Semifinals
HAND 7, VALLEY REGIONAL 0
STONINGTON 5, WESTON 2
Class S—Semifinal
WESTBROOK 6, HOLY CROSS 1

SATURDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BASEBALL

CIAC State Tournaments
Class LL—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket: No. 8Danbury (18-4) at No. 1 Xavier (20-2), 1p.m.; No. 5Newington (19-3) at No. 4Southington (19-3), 2p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 15Staples (15-7) at No. 10 Trumbull (16-6), 2p.m.; No. 11Glastonbury (16-6) at No. 3Fairfield Warde (19-3), 12:30p.m.
Class L—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket: No. 8Lyman Hall (15-7) at No. 1 Windsor (21-1), noon; No. 29Middletown (10-12) at No. 12Hand (14-8), noon
Lower Bracket: No. 15East Lyme (13-9) at No. 10 Maloney (14-5), 2p.m.; No. 14Notre Dame-West Haven (13-9) at No. 6Wethersfield (17-5), 11a.m.
Class M—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket: No. 17Sheehan (14-8) at No. 8 Killingly (16-6), noon; No. 21Suffield (13-8) at No. 4Barlow (19-3), 3p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 7Woodland (17-5) at No. 2 Northwestern (20-2), 11a.m.; No. 19Law (14-8) at No. 11Waterford (15-7), 3:30p.m.
Class S—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket: No. 9North Branford (15-7) at No. 1St. Paul (22-0), 4p.m.; No. 20Northwest Catholic (12-10) at No. 12Immaculate (14-8), 2:30p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 7Oxford (16-6) at No. 2Valley Regional (20-2), 2p.m.; No. 22Old Lyme (12-10) at No. 3Somers (18-4), noon

SOFTBALL

CIAC State Tournaments
Class LL—Quarterfinal
Upper Bracket: No. 13Trumbull (17-5) at No. 5 Bristol Central (19-3), 4p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE

CIAC State Tournaments
Class L—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket: No. 8Greenwich (12-5) at No. 1 Darien (15-1), 2p.m.; No. 5Fairfield Prep (12-4) at No. 4New Milford (14-3), 3p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 7Fairfield Ludlowe (12-5) at No. 2Staples (15-2), 3p.m.; No. 11New Canaan (11-6) at No. 3Ridgefield (14-3), 3p.m.

Upper Bracket: No. 9Barlow (12-5) at No. 1 Cheshire (15-2), 3p.m.; No. 5Hand (14-3) at No. 4 Wilton (14-3), 1:30p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 15Avon (11-7) at No. 10 Notre Dame-West Haven (12-5), 3p.m.; No. 6 Wethersfield (13-3) at No. 3East Catholic (14-2), 12:30p.m.

Class S—Quarterfinals
Upper Bracket: No. 8Haddam-Killingworth (13-4) at No. 1Waterford (14-3), 4p.m.; No. 5 Weston (13-4) at No. 4Sheehan (13-4), 2:30p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 7Northwest Catholic (13-4) at No. 2Ellington (14-3), 3p.m.; No. 6Somers (13-4) at No. 3Canton (13-3), 3p.m.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CIAC State Tournaments
Class L—Quarterfinal
Lower Bracket: No. 11Conard (12-6) at No. 3 Trumbull (19-2), 5p.m.

BOYS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments
ALL FINALS AT WESLEYAN, MIDDLETOWN
Class L—Final
No. 5Staples (16-20vs. No. 2Greenwich (17-1), 2:30p.m.
Class L—Final
No. 12New Canaan (11-7) vs. No. 3Darien (17-1), 9a.m.
Class M—Final
No. 7Barlow (13-4) vs. No. 1Avon (20-0), 11a.m.
Class S—Final
No. 5Shepaug (14-2) vs. No. 2Granby (16-1), 9 a.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments
ALL FINALS AT WESLEYAN, MIDDLETOWN
Class L—Final
No. 5Guilford (18-5) vs. No. 3Newington (17-3), 1p.m.
Class M—Final
No. 15Hand (15-6) vs. No. 1Stonington (18-1), 11a.m.
Class S—Final
No. 3Westbrook (18-2) vs. No. 1Old Lyme (22-0), 3p.m.

SUNDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

GIRLS TENNIS

CIAC State Tournaments
ALL FINALS AT WESLEYAN, MIDDLETOWN
Class LL—Final
No. 2Darien (18-0) vs. No. 1Amity (20-0), 11:30 a.m.

FRIDAY'S COLLEGE RESULTS

BASEBALL

NCAA Div. I **Tourney**—Maryland Regional (Double Elimination)
UCONN 8, WAKE FOREST 7
NCAA Div. III **Tourney**—Finals (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)
Bracket Play (Double Elimination)
EASTERN 10, BALDWIN WALLACE 3

SATURDAY'S COLLEGE SCHEDULE

BASEBALL

NCAA Div. I **Tourney**—Maryland Regional (Double Elimination)
Winner's Game
UConn vs. LIU/Maryland winner, 7p.m.
NCAA Div. III **Tourney**—Finals (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)
Bracket Play (Double Elimination)
Winner's Game
Eastern vs. Trinity (Texas)/LaGrange winner, 8:45p.m.

MEN'S ROWING

Trinity, Yale at IRA National Championship (West Windsor, N.J.), 8a.m.

SUNDAY'S COLLEGE SCHEDULE

BASEBALL

NCAA Div. I **Tourney**—Maryland Regional (Double Elimination)
UConn vs. TBD, 1/7 p.m.

NCAA Div. III **Tourney**—Finals (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)
Bracket Play (Double Elimination)
Eastern vs. TBD, 2:15/4:55p.m.

MEN'S ROWING

Trinity, Yale at IRA National Championship (West Windsor, N.J.), 8a.m.

EASTERN LEAGUE

Standings	W	L	PCT	GB
Northeast				
Somerset	30	17	.638	—
Hartford	29	19	.604	1.5
New Hampshire	22	25	.468	8
Portland	22	26	.458	8.5
Reading	21	27	.438	9.5
Binghamton	18	29	.383	12
Southwest	W	L	PCT	GB
Akron	28	20	.583	—
Erie	28	20	.583	—
Richmond	26	22	.542	2
Altoona	23	25	.479	5
Harrisburg	20	27	.426	7.5
Bowie	18	28	.391	9

THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS

READING 4-1, HARTFORD 1-0
BINGHAMTON 5-4, SOMERSET 3-6
ALTOONA 13, BOWIE 12
NEW HAMPSHIRE 8, PORTLAND 7 (10)
RICHMOND 8, AKRON 4

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

READING AT HARTFORD, LATE
RICHMOND AT AKRON (2), LATE
BOWIE AT ALTOONA, LATE
PORTLAND AT NEW HAMPSHIRE, LATE
HARRISBURG AT ERIE, LATE
SOMERSET AT BINGHAMTON, LATE

SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE

Reading at Hartford, 6p.m.
Bowie at Altoona, 6p.m.
Harrisburg at Erie, 6p.m.
Portland at New Hampshire, 6:30p.m.
Somerst at Binghamton, 6:30p.m.
Richmond at Akron, 7p.m.

WNBA

Standings	W	L	PCT	GB
Eastern				
Connecticut	7	3	.700	—
Washington	7	3	.700	—
Atlanta	6	3	.667	0.5
Chicago	5	3	.625	1
Indiana	3	9	.250	4
New York	2	7	.222	4.5
Western	W	L	PCT	GB
Las Vegas	9	2	.818	—
Seattle	5	3	.625	2.5
Dallas	5	4	.556	3
Los Angeles	5	6	.455	4
Phoenix	2	7	.222	6
Minnesota	2	8	.200	6.5

THURSDAY'S LATE RESULT

CONNECTICUT 97, LAS VEGAS 90

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

CONNECTICUT AT PHOENIX, LATE
NEW YORK AT WASHINGTON, LATE
CHICAGO AT ATLANTA, LATE
DALLAS AT SEATTLE, LATE

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE

Minnesota at New York, 2p.m.
Indiana at Atlanta, 3p.m.
Washington at Chicago,

Hartford Courant
EXTRA
FLAVOR



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Seeking spring comfort?

Buttery, vegetable-topped polenta will do the trick



A versatile pot of polenta can accommodate pretty much anything you want to serve it with. DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

By Melissa Clark
The New York Times

Comfort food can take different forms. At its most heartfelt, it's those childhood tastes that resonate emotionally: a pan of noodle kugel, a chicken foot straight out of my grandmother's soup pot, a buttered slice of my father's warm anadama bread. They may not be comforting to everyone, but, to me, they're as soothing as a purring cat curled up in my lap (also not comforting for everyone).

Then, there's the more general kind of comfort food: carbohydrate-filled, unchallenging things that go down easy when life feels hard.

The most powerfully comforting dishes combine the personal with the universal. In my kitchen, a bowl of soft polenta does exactly that.

When I ate it as a kid, I drizzled it with molasses and called it cornmeal mush to evoke the little pioneer sisters from my favorite storybooks. Those same ingredients, cornmeal and molasses, also went into my father's anadama loaves.

Years later, I learned that what I called cornmeal mush is the American cousin of Italian polenta, the main difference being the grind of the corn. Polenta is coarser. And it's usually eaten savory, the only sweetness coming from the cornmeal itself, often balanced out by a fistful of Parmesan. Still, it gives me the same warm, cozy feeling as that childhood mush.

Not just comforting, polenta is versatile, too. A pot of it can accommodate pretty much anything you want to serve it with, whether it's a simple shower of black pepper or the most elaborate ragù.

This vegetable-topped version is

perfect for spring. It looks fancy but is extremely easy to make: a quick braise that layers asparagus and peas with shallots, vermouth and loads of fresh mint.

You can make the topping while the polenta cooks. I usually bake my polenta, since I like recipes that are hands-off. But if you prefer having more control, you can simmer the polenta on one burner while making the sauce on another.

If you're short on time, you can substitute instant polenta. But you won't get that same pleasingly nubby texture and deep corn flavor.

Or, if it's the buttery asparagus-pea-shallot topping that's calling to you rather than the polenta, skip it. Instead, you can serve the braised vegetables over pasta, toast, rice or a plate of scrambled eggs. Anything that gives you comfort will work perfectly here.

POLENTA WITH ASPARAGUS, PEAS AND MINT

Makes: 4 servings
Total time: 1 hour
1 ½ cups polenta, coarse-grind cornmeal or corn grits (see note)
1 teaspoon fine sea or table salt, plus more as needed
4 to 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
¼ cup grated Parmesan, or more to taste, plus shaved Parmesan for serving
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more as needed
2 large or 4 small shallots (or 1 small red onion), thinly sliced
3 thinly sliced garlic cloves
2 tablespoons dry vermouth or white wine
2 pounds asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
1 ½ cups frozen or fresh peas (no need to thaw frozen peas first)
⅓ cup vegetable or chicken stock
½ cup torn mint leaves, or you can use parsley, cilantro or a combination of any soft herbs
Freshly ground black pepper

1. If cooking polenta on stovetop: In a medium pot over high heat, combine 4 ½ cups water, polenta and 1 teaspoon salt. Bring to a simmer, stirring frequently, until thickened, 30 to 40 minutes, depending on how finely the polenta is ground (coarse-ground polenta takes longer).
2. Alternatively, cook polenta in oven: Heat oven to 350 degrees. In a medium Dutch oven or other oven-safe pot over high heat, bring 4 ½ cups water, polenta and 1 teaspoon salt to a boil. Reduce heat to medium, stirring constantly until the mixture starts to thicken slightly, 3 to 5 minutes. Cover pot and transfer to the oven. Bake for 20 minutes, then give the mixture a stir. If it looks dry, add another ½ cup water. Cover the pot once more, and continue to bake for another 20 to 30 minutes.

3. When polenta is thick and creamy, stir in 2 to 4 of the tablespoons butter (depending on how buttery you like it) and the Parmesan. Taste and add more Parmesan and salt, if needed.

4. As the polenta cooks, prepare the vegetables: In a large skillet, heat oil over medium. Add shallots and sauté until tender and golden, 4 to 6 minutes.

5. Stir in garlic and cook for another minute or two, until fragrant and very lightly golden in spots. Add vermouth and cook until alcohol evaporates, about 2 to 3 minutes.

6. Stir in asparagus and peas, and cook until vegetables are glossy, 2 to 3 minutes. Add stock, remaining 2 tablespoons butter and a large pinch of salt, and bring to a simmer. Cook until vegetables are tender and sauce thickens slightly, 2 to 8 minutes. (Thicker asparagus will take longer to soften.) Stir in the mint. Taste and add more salt, if needed.

7. To serve, spoon polenta into bowls, top with vegetables and their sauce, and grind on lots of fresh pepper. Finish with shaved Parmesan.

Note: If using instant polenta, cook it according to package instructions and start at Step 3.



Roasted wild salmon with ginger-lime butter. Whether you choose king salmon, coho or sockeye, take care not to overcook it.
DAVID MALOSH/ THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

A light, fresh menu that meets the moment

By David Tanis
The New York Times

The spring awakening is upon us. At the market, asparagus is showing up, along with leafy young turnips and the first peas. But even beets can be springy when given a chance.

I craved a light, fresh meal to match the season. Earthy beets beckoned at the market in bright bunches, leaves attached. They were so fetching that it was hard to choose: the ruby-red or the sunny gold ones?

Though they take a while to prepare, freshly roasted beets are worth the effort. You can cook a dozen or so at a time and keep them in the fridge, at the ready for use in salads or soup. I wanted a zippy soup that hinted at borscht but not in a wintry way. So I seasoned and tempered sweet beets with a touch of vinegar, then whizzed them to a silky purée.

To contrast the soup’s rich flavor, I swiped a hefty amount of yogurt, dotted with tarragon and chives, across the soup’s surface. The good news is, it tastes good hot or chilled — and, I think, is best served in small portions.

On the West Coast, spring is the beginning of wild salmon season. There really is nothing quite like it: Wild salmon simply tastes better than farmed and is always a better choice, sustainably speaking. (Is it a splurge? Yes, except in places like Seattle.)

Whether you choose king salmon, coho or sockeye, take care not to overcook it: At the fish market, I ask for one large fillet. Then I lay it flat on a baking sheet and roast it in a moderate oven, just until white juices appear on the surface of the



Cherry compote with almonds. Fresh cherries are ideal, but frozen cherries will do in a pinch.

CHERRY COMPOTE WITH ALMONDS

Gorgeous, shiny cherries straight from the market are the ideal finish to a meal — just put them in a big bowl and take them to the table. If, however, you feel a need to serve a “real” dessert, try these easy, slightly gussied-up cherries, which are really a kind of simplified version of brandied cherries. Fresh cherries are ideal, but frozen cherries will do in a pinch.

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
Total time: 10 minutes, plus chilling
1 pound pitted fresh cherries
¼ cup sugar
2 tablespoons orange or almond liqueur, such as Cointreau

A few drops of almond extract
1 cup whole blanched almonds (see note below)
1. Put cherries in a low, wide skillet over medium heat. Sprinkle with sugar and cook, stirring occasionally, until cherries are heated through and a syrup has formed at the bottom of the pan, 5 to 8 minutes.
2. Turn off heat. Add orange liqueur and almond extract. Stir in blanched almonds.
3. Transfer to a serving bowl and refrigerate until time to serve. (It keeps for up to 3 days in the refrigerator.) Serve chilled.
Note: To blanch almonds, place a handful of whole natural almonds in a bowl and pour boiling water over them. After 5 minutes, drain almonds. While they’re still warm, slip off the skins.

fish. This ensures moist, flaky salmon.
To enhance the fish, I mashed grated ginger and lime zest and juice into butter, to be smeared over the hot fillet. I used the same butter to quickly wilt a huge potful of baby spinach, which made a fine accompaniment. Their additions were in keeping with the theme of fresh, bright and springy — amplifying, not minimizing, the greens’ role.

Summer’s riotous bounty may get more attention, but the return of spring’s seasonal offerings to my basket feels like a true celebration. When I spied cherries on the market rounds the other day, it put a little pep in my step. Gorgeous, shiny cherries straight from the market are the ideal finish to a meal. Just put them in a big bowl and take them to the table — instant glorious dessert.
If, however, you feel

a need to serve a “real” dessert, try these easy, slightly gussied-up cherries. It’s really a kind of simplified version of brandied cherries. The almond-cherry combination is classic; in fact, the two are botanically related. Serve a few of these cherries in little glasses, perhaps with some Italian almond cookies — but you’d get no complaints if you spooned them over vanilla ice cream.

BEET SOUP WITH TARRAGON, CHIVES AND YOGURT

Freshly cooked beets, though they take a while to prepare (see note), are so delicious that they’re worth the effort. Cook them the day before you need them and keep them in the fridge for up to a week, to use in salads or for a soup. For this borscht-inspired soup, a splash of vinegar tempers the beets’ natural sweetness, which is perfectly complemented by a splash of tart herby yogurt. This soup may be served warm or chilled; each way is refreshing.

Makes: 6 to 8 servings
Total time: 40 minutes, plus time for cooking beets
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 medium onion, diced
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 ½ pounds cooked, peeled red beets, chopped (see note)
Salt and pepper
Pinch of ground cayenne
¼ cup red-wine or apple cider vinegar, plus more to taste
8 cups water or broth
1 cup whole-milk yogurt
3 tablespoons chopped tarragon leaves
2 tablespoons thinly sliced chives
1. Put olive oil in a heavy-bottomed soup pot or deep, wide skillet over medium heat. Add onion and garlic, cook slowly, stirring, until softened, about 10 minutes.

2. Add beets and season generously with salt and pepper. Add a pinch of cayenne and pour in vinegar. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally, then add water and raise heat to a brisk simmer. Taste broth and adjust. Cook for another 10 minutes, until beets are completely soft.
3. Purée in a blender, in batches if necessary, and strain through a fine-mesh sieve. (Consistency should be like heavy cream, no thicker — thin with water or broth as necessary). Return puréed soup to pot and reheat. In a small bowl, combine yogurt with tarragon and chives. Add a good pinch of salt and beat with a fork to loosen yogurt.
4. Taste soup, and adjust for salt and vinegar. Ladle into individual bowls. Swirl a large spoonful (2 to 3 tablespoons) of herbed yogurt across surface of the soup.
Note: To cook beets, cut off the greens and reserve for another use. Wash beets well, put them in a low baking dish and add 1 inch of water. Put on a tightly fitting lid or wrap tightly with foil. Bake at 350 degrees until they are fork tender, about 1 hour 15 minutes. While beets are still warm, slide off the tough “skin” with the aid of a kitchen towel. Refrigerate cooked beets for up to a week.



Beet soup can be served warm or chilled.

ROASTED SALMON WITH GINGER-LIME BUTTER

Wild Pacific salmon is available in spring and summer, and the flavor is phenomenal. It definitely tastes better than farmed salmon and is always a better choice, sustainably speaking. Though it is expensive, think of it as a seasonal treat. Whether you choose wild king salmon, coho or sockeye, take care not to overcook it.

Makes: 4 to 6 servings

Total time: 25 minutes
1 (1 ½ pound) wild salmon fillet, such as king or coho, at room temperature
Salt and pepper
6 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
2 tablespoons grated ginger
1 teaspoon lime zest
1 teaspoon lemon zest
2 tablespoons lime juice
1 pound baby spinach
Lime wedges, for serving
½ cup thinly sliced scallions, green and white parts

1. Lay the salmon on a rimmed baking sheet, and season with salt and pepper. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Make the ginger-lime butter: In a small bowl, combine softened butter, ginger, lime zest, lemon zest and lime juice. Add salt and pepper to taste, and stir well to combine.
3. Transfer salmon, uncovered, to oven to cook for about 8 minutes. Check the salmon once or twice as it cooks. Depending on the thickness of the fish, it should be fully cooked when little white juices appear on the surface — moist and yielding with big flakes when

probed. It may take 10 minutes for thick fillets.
4. As the salmon cooks, put 2 tablespoons ginger-lime butter in a wide, deep skillet or large pot over medium heat. When butter is melted, add spinach and a pinch of salt. Put on the lid and turn heat to medium-high. (You may need to add spinach in batches.) After 2 minutes, remove lid and stir spinach to help it wilt. When all spinach is wilted, turn off heat.
5. Transfer salmon to a platter or divide among plates. Smear remaining ginger-lime butter on fish. Surround with wilted spinach and lime wedges, and top with scallions.

Are sheep crucial for vineyards, ecosystems?

By Eric Asimov
The New York Times

PAICINES, Calif. — This is a story about livestock and vegetation, microorganisms and tilling, ecosystems and compost, water and climate change, which, in 2022, means it’s very much about wine.

This dusty town in San Benito County, about an hour by car southeast of Santa Cruz, is the site of Paicines Ranch, an experiment in creating a diverse ecosystem dedicated to regenerative agriculture and soil health.

On 7,600 rolling acres of grassy hills, threaded with chaparral sage, oak forest and wetlands, cattle, sheep, pigs, turkeys and chickens graze and forage in an environment rich with the sounds of birds, insects and other wild creatures going about their day.

Before the animals are sold off as pastured meats, they are integral parts of a polycultural farm, which includes roughly 300 acres of organic grains and vegetables along with a 25-acre organic demonstration vineyard.

The vineyard has a tall order. It was specifically intended to build soil health with a permanent cover of native perennial grasses and other plants, and to introduce animals into the vineyard. The aim is to withstand and combat climate change by sequestering carbon and minimizing water usage, and to increase the population of mycorrhizal fungi, which form symbiotic relationships with the vine roots, all while producing the material to make exceptional wine.

Other vineyards are farmed with regenerative agriculture, which builds a thriving population of microorganisms in the soil and a diverse ecosystem. An increasing number of grape growers have stopping tilling their vineyards,



Sheep graze May 3 at Paicines, a winery and ranch in San Benito County, California. **NIC CORYU/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

which exposes bare earth, releasing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Many even bring animals into the vineyard after the grapes have been harvested and before the new season starts, using them to control grasses and weeds and as a natural source of fertilizer.

Yet few have taken the approach of Paicines Ranch, which allows sheep into the vineyard even during the growing season, a practice that is generally shunned because sheep can eat precious leaves, buds and grapes.

A few others have developed workarounds to discourage sheep from going after the vines, but the Paicines vineyards may be the first in modern times to have been designed with the idea of having animals among the vines.

Instead of the usual method of training vines on trellises rather low to the ground, in easy reach of hungry grazers, the Paicines vines are set much

higher, beyond the reach of even the most determined sheep. This goes against conventional modern thinking, in which vines are kept low both to absorb heat from the earth and to minimize the energy the plant uses pushing sap upward.

“What is the evolutionary aspect of a grapevine?” said Kelly Mulville, the vineyard manager. “They go up a tree.”

Mulville has been working for years with the notion of integrating animals and organic farming, ever since noticing how much better the crops did when planted in areas that had recently been grazed by cattle while working at an organic farm in the San Luis Valley in Colorado.

He kept that in mind as his focus transitioned to wine, which led him to Spain, Australia, New Zealand and California, where he worked at Rhys Vineyards in the Santa Cruz Mountains and Medlock Ames in the Alex-

ander Valley.

Finally, he was able to experiment with keeping sheep in a small vineyard in the Alexander Valley during the growing season and was astonished at the results.

It happened that Sallie Calhoun, who owns Paicines Ranch with her husband, Matt Christiano, had been intrigued with the idea of incorporating a vineyard into the ranch’s polyculture.

Calhoun was a software engineer with an interest in organic gardening who sold her company in 2001 and purchased the ranch that same year.

The first half of the vineyard was planted in 2017 and the rest in 2020. Altogether now, it comprises seven acres of grenache and a wide variety of other grapes, including assyrtiko, verdejo, picpoul blanc, carignan, mencia, cinsault, counoise and cabernet sauvignon.

If all goes according to plan, the sheep — 1,700

live on the ranch, primarily Dorper and Katahdin breeds — will graze in the vineyard three or four times over the course of the year, eating the grasses and weeds that many growers try to eradicate because they see them as competing with the vines for resources. Mulville scoffs at the idea that other plants threaten vines.

“That’s not how ecosystems work,” Mulville said. What we call weeds have an important role to play, he said, adding to the ecological diversity while drawing in animals who feed on them and improve the life in the soil and health of the vines with their presence.

The first commercial harvest was in 2021. It was sold to Margins Wine, which uses organically grown grapes chosen from what the winemaker, Megan Bell, considers underrepresented regions. She made three wines from Paicines grapes, a grenache, a verdejo and an assyrtiko.

The early results are encouraging. I tasted an assyrtiko and a verdejo during a visit to Paicines earlier this year and found both to be fresh, energetic and deeply textured. The assyrtiko in particular was striking, reminiscent of the stony citrus and herbal flavors of a wine from Santorini but kissed by a little California sun.

“The quality of the fruit was stunning,” Bell said by email. “I was incredibly impressed by the complexity the finished wines achieved from vines that were only four years old.”

Wine quality is crucial if only to draw attention to Mulville’s farming methods. People who might not be moved by moral arguments for regenerative farming may be swayed by demonstrably excellent wines.

“Ideally, the wines are extraordinary, the proof that this works,” said Mimi Casteel, a farmer and winemaker in the Willamette Valley of Oregon who has been a leading advocate for regenerative agriculture, and who has been closely following the work at Paicines.

Because wine is so often a product that heightens people’s awareness of agriculture, it can stimulate interest in the possibilities of regenerative agriculture as a tool to fight climate change and build more diverse ecosystems.

In that sense, wine is simply a tool to reach the greater goals of Calhoun and Mulville, which, as Calhoun said, is to demonstrate the benefits of soil health in hopes that their methods will be adopted widely.

“It’s not as if the first try is going to succeed,” she said. “We have to figure it out.”

Mulville added: “It was established in part to demonstrate what is possible. We’re just scratching the surface.”

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Personalized cookbooks preserve memories

By Sharyn Jackson
Minneapolis Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — A black linen napkin made the chicken pop. After ruffling a white towel over a square of rustic wooden planks, Rachel Ingber thought better of it and grabbed the darker cloth from the hallway “prop closet” in her home. She set it with a casual billow next to an All-Clad casserole dish holding a char-flecked roast chicken so plump it was practically hanging over the edges, and snapped a photo from above.

Moments later, the picture appeared on a laptop screen. “Winner?” Ingber asked her client and friend, Sarah Sherman. “Winner winner, chicken dinner,” Sherman answered.

The photo shoot was one of several sessions between the two that will ultimately become a keepsake cookbook preserving the recipes of Sherman’s late mother.

Ingber is a book photographer and designer, and her business, Heirloom Collaborative, specializes in food. Clients meet with her over the course of weeks or months to flesh out a vision for a personal collection of recipes that, when printed, will be a hardbound and glossy cookbook.

The self-professed “cookbook addict” creates a volume that connects to history and memory in a visceral way: through tastes, smells and mouthwatering food photography.

“Food is such an emotional thing for families,” said Ingber, 34. “It brings me so much joy to hear the stories and preserve these recipes.”

A former market researcher, Ingber started making cookbooks as a hobby. A few years ago, as her husband’s grandmother, who went by Nana Minnie, was about to turn 97, Ingber decided to gather



Rachel Ingber with some of the heirloom cookbooks she has helped create. JERRY HOLT/STAR TRIBUNE

a few of Nana Minnie’s beloved recipes and type them up for herself.

She started taking photos of the dishes as she prepared them, and as she worked, formatting recipes and designing the book using publishing software, family members asked if they could have a copy when she was done. She finished the book, which has a closeup of Nana Minnie on the cover, for the matriarch’s 100th birthday. When she died months later, the cookbook became even more meaningful to the extended family who purchased copies.

Over the years she worked on the project, and in the time since, Ingber stumbled onto a powerful way to keep a dear relative’s memory alive. “I feel like our kids know Nana still, because they see her, and they know when we make the chocolate chip cookies from her cookbook, those are Nana’s cookies.”

Ingber loved immers-

NANA MINNIE’S POPPY SEED COOKIES

Makes: About 200 cookies
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ cup poppy seeds

1. In the bowl of an electric mixer on medium-high speed, cream together butter and sugar. Add eggs and vanilla extract, and continue to beat well.

2. Add flour, baking powder and poppy seeds, and mix until well combined.

ing herself in Nana Minnie’s recipes during the yearslong process of making the cookbook, and she imagined she could streamline it and do the same for others. She left her job last year to pursue custom cookbooks as a

3. Divide dough into 4 parts and roll out each into a log-shaped roll about the width of a quarter. Wrap each individually with plastic wrap and place in the freezer until firm, about 1 hour.

4. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

5. Remove the dough from the freezer and roll a few times (still in plastic wrap) to re-form the log shape. Remove plastic.

6. Slice into thin, quarter-sized pieces and lay each piece out on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 15 minutes or until browned. Remove from oven and transfer to baking rack to cool.

career and has since created books for clients as far away as North Carolina.

Some clients cook their own food and bring it to Ingber to photograph. Other times, Ingber makes the dishes in her own kitchen, as she and Sher-

man did together on a recent afternoon, the scent of garlic and onion wafting over Ingber’s makeshift photo studio on her dining room table.

Ingber and Sherman began working together on the book earlier this year, and their sessions came with an unexpected twist for Sherman.

“This has been super therapeutic for me to get to process my grief in a very healthy and natural and comforting way,” she said.

CREATING MEMORIES

Want to make your own cookbook? After a consultation, Ingber will set a project fee based on the amount of recipes, photography and cooking needed. Projects typically take two to three months to complete, and copies of the finished books are additional cost and start at \$40. For more information, go to heirloomcollab.com, or find Ingber’s work on Instagram @heirloomcollaborative.

ALICE’S CAVATELLI

This is one of Sarah Sherman’s mother’s no-recipe recipes, which will be published in a custom cookbook made by Rachel Ingber’s Heirloom Collaborative. “The cavatelli was an accident,” Sherman said. “My mom was out of pasta, so it’s actually three pastas mixed together.” Use any kind of pasta in your pantry, enough to equal about a pound dry. Or use leftover cooked pasta.

Makes: 6 servings
¼ to ½ pound each of two to three different types of pasta
1 pound ground beef
Olive oil
1 medium onion, diced
1 green pepper, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
¼ pound sliced pepperoni
1 to 2 jars of spaghetti sauce
¼ cup shredded provolone
¼ cup shredded mozzarella
¼ cup shredded Parmesan cheese

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

2. Cook the pasta according to package directions. (If there are different cook times, make them separately.) Drain, drizzle with olive oil and set aside.

3. In a large skillet, cook the beef until it’s totally browned. Remove the meat with a slotted spoon and set aside. Discard any grease from the skillet. Heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil in the skillet and add onion and peppers, stirring until the onions are translucent. Add garlic and cook for 1 additional minute. Off heat, mix in the cooked beef, pepperoni and tomato sauce.

4. In a 9-by-13-inch casserole dish, layer half the mixed noodles, tomato-beef mixture and cheeses, then repeat, ending with the cheese on top.

5. Bake for 20 to 30 minutes until hot. Cover with foil if the cheese is starting to burn.



Our agua fresca, or “fresh water,” is packed with fresh watermelon juice, tart lime juice and a touch of honey. ASHLEY MOORE/AMERICA’S TEST KITCHEN

Stay cool this summer with a refreshing drink

America’s Test Kitchen

Agua fresca means “fresh water.” It is the name for a variety of drinks that are typically made by combining fruits, grains, seeds or flowers with sugar and water.

Some of the most common agua fresca varieties are horchata (made with rice and nuts), agua de Jamaica (made with hibiscus tea) and any variety of melon.

We chose watermelon for our recipe and added lime juice, honey and just a

little salt to bring out the sweet and tart flavors. Serve it in a clear glass to show off that color!

Garnishes can also add pizzazz to your beverage. Here are a few ideas:

- Add fresh fruit on top, such as slices of lemon or lime or watermelon shapes.
- Wrap a strip of citrus peel around a chopstick and place the corkscrew peel in the glass for flair.
- Boost flavor with the addition of fresh herbs, such as a sprig of mint or rosemary.

WATERMELON AGUA FRESCA

Makes: 4 to 6 servings, about 6 cups
8 cups (1-inch pieces) seedless watermelon (2 ½ pounds)
2 cups water
¼ cup lime juice, squeezed from 2 limes, plus lime wedges for serving
2 tablespoons honey
½ teaspoon salt
Ice
Fresh mint leaves (optional)

1. Place a fine-mesh strainer over a pitcher; set aside.

2. Add half of the chopped watermelon and half of the water to a blender jar. Place lid on top of blender and hold firmly in place with a folded dish towel. Process until smooth,

about 30 seconds.

3. Pour mixture into a fine-mesh strainer set over a pitcher. Use a rubber spatula to stir and press on watermelon bits to get out as much juice as possible. Discard the solids in the strainer.

4. Repeat blending and straining in Steps 2 and 3 with the second half of the watermelon and water.

5. Add lime juice, honey and salt to the pitcher. Use a rubber spatula to stir until well combined.

6. To serve, place ice in glasses and pour agua fresca over ice. Add a lime wedge and mint (if using) to each glass.

Note: Agua fresca can be refrigerated for up to five days; stir to recombine before serving.

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

Grilled, smoky flank steak tacos perfect for a cookout

By Diane Rossen
Worthington
Tribune Content Agency

Chef Hugo Molina shared this recipe with me years ago, and I like to have it in my fridge for last-minute Mexican dishes.

Chipotle chiles canned in adobo sauce, which can be found in Mexican markets, are used here. The smoky, slightly hot salsa is just the right flavor for these steak tacos and adds spice to the dish, and it’s good on everything, from guacamole and chips to eggs and enchiladas.

You can always use a ready-made pico de gallo and add some chopped chipotle if you are pressed



It’s best to marinate the flank steak up to 24 hours ahead of time. DREAMSTIME

GRILLED FLANK STEAK TACOS WITH SMOKY SALSA

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
1 cup smoky salsa (see following recipe)
1 cup full-bodied beer
1 pound flank steak
1 garlic clove, minced
1 lime, juiced
1 teaspoon honey
2 tablespoons oil
Salt and pepper
½ small green cabbage, cored and shredded
1 carrot, peeled and shredded
2 tablespoons finely chopped cilantro
8 to 12 heated corn tortillas
½ cup sour cream
Thinly sliced avocado or guacamole
2 tablespoons crumbled Mexican cheese
Lime quarters

1. Combine ½ cup of the salsa and ¾ cup of the beer in a medium mixing bowl; mix until well blended. Flatten out the flank steak in

a shallow large non-aluminum dish. Pour the marinade over it and marinate for 2 to 24 hours covered in the refrigerator; the longer, the more tender. In a small serving bowl, combine the remaining salsa and beer for the sauce and mix together. Taste for seasoning. Cover and refrigerate until serving.

2. In a medium bowl combine the garlic, lime juice, honey, oil and salt and pepper, and mix to combine. Add the cabbage, carrot and cilantro, and mix to coat the vegetables with tongs. Taste for seasoning. Reserve.

3. Prepare a barbecue for medium-heat grilling. Remove the steak from the marinade and grill it 3 inches from the heat for 5 to 7 minutes on each side for medium-rare, depending upon its size. Place on a carving platter and thinly slice against the grain.

4. Arrange a few slices of steak on top of each tortilla; Top with shredded cabbage, salsa, sour cream, avocado and cheese; serve immediately with lime quarters.

SMOKY SALSA

Makes: 2 cups
5 large Roma tomatoes, halved
1 small red onion, cut into thick slices
3 scallions, white and light green parts only
½ medium bunch of cilantro, bottom stems removed
1 garlic clove
1 teaspoon canned chipotle peppers
1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar
1 teaspoon salt
¼ cup chicken stock

1. Prepare a barbecue for medium-high-heat grilling. Grill the tomatoes, onion slices and scallions until partially charred, turning occasionally. The red onions will take the longest. Transfer to a plate. Grill the cilantro for about 30 seconds, just to wilt and give off a slight smoky flavor.

2. With the motor running, add garlic clove to a food processor fitted with the metal blade. Process until pureed. Add the grilled vegetables and remaining ingredients, and process until all the vegetables are pureed. Taste for seasoning.